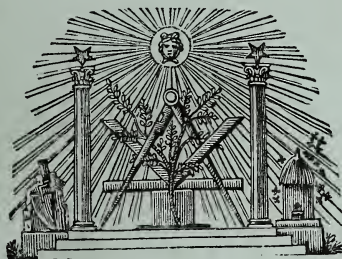


PROCEEDINGS
—OF THE—
GRAND * LODGE

—OF—
NORTH * CAROLINA,

...A. F. & A. M. ...

1888.



*One * Hundred * and * First * Annual * Communication*

RALEIGH, N. C.,

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, January 10, 11 and 12, A. D. 1888.

The 102d Annual Communication
WILL BE HELD IN THE CITY OF RALEIGH, ON THE SECOND TUESDAY IN
JANUARY, 1889, AT 7:30 O'CLOCK P. M., BEING THE 8TH
DAY OF THE MONTH.

(SEE LAST PAGE OF COVER.)

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE
OF
Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons
OF
NORTH CAROLINA.

One Hundred and First Annual Communication.

AT RALEIGH,

JANUARY 10TH, 11TH AND 12TH, A. D. 1888.



RALEIGH, N. C.:
EDWARDS & BROUGHTON, POWER PRINTERS AND BINDERS.
1888.

ADDRESS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

CHARLES H. ROBINSON, ..GRAND MASTER,Wilmington.
SAMUEL H. SMITH,.....DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,Winston.
HEZEKIAH A. GUDGER.....SENIOR GRAND WARDEN,....Asheville.
JOHN W. COTTEN,.....JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN,....Tarboro.
WILLIAM E. ANDERSON,....GRAND TREASURER,Raleigh.
DONALD W. BAIN,GRAND SECRETARY,.....Raleigh.
WRIGHT G. CAMPBELL, ...GRAND CHAPLAIN,Concord.
ALPHEUS W. WOOD,.....SENIOR GRAND DEACON,....Newbern.
SAMUEL NORTHROP.....JUNIOR GRAND DEACON,....Wilmington.
FRANCIS M. MOYE,GRAND MARSHAL,Moyton.
ALBERT B. DAUGHTREY, .GRAND SWORD BEARER,Seaboard.
CHARLES F. GILBERT,....GRAND PURSUIVANT,Leicester.
ROBERT H. BRADLEY,....GRAND TILER,Raleigh.
ARA O. EDSON,.....GRAND STEWARD,Tulls.
JOHN W. THOMPSON,.....GRAND STEWARD,Raleigh.

PROCEEDINGS.

THE Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina, convened in its One Hundred and First Annual Communication at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Raleigh, on Tuesday evening, January 10th, A. L., 5888, A. D. 1888, at 8 o'clock, and was opened in ample form, it appearing that a constitutional number of Lodges was represented.

Prayer was offered by the Grand Chaplain.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT:

M. W.,	CHARLES H. ROBINSON,	.....	GRAND MASTER.
R. W.,	SAMUEL H. SMITH,	.....	DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.
"	HEZEKIAH A. GUDGER,	.....	SENIOR GRAND WARDEN.
"	JOHN W. COTTEN,	.....	JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN.
"	WILLIAM E. ANDERSON,	.....	GRAND TREASURER.
"	DONALD W. BAIN,	.....	GRAND SECRETARY.
BRO.	WRIGHT G. CAMPBELL,	.....	GRAND CHAPLAIN.
"	ALBERT M. NOBLE,	.....	as SENIOR GRAND DEACON.
"	SAMUEL NORTHROP,	.....	as JUNIOR GRAND DEACON.
"	FRANCIS M. MOYE,	.....	GRAND MARSHAL.
"	ALBERT B. DAUGHTREY,	.....	GRAND SWORD BEARER.
"	CHARLES F. GILBERT,	.....	GRAND PURSUIVANT.
"	ARA O. EDSON,	.....	GRAND STEWARD.
"	ROBERT H. BRADLEY,	.....	GRAND TILER.

Past Grand Officers present :

M. W., George W. Blount and F. H. Busbee, Past Grand Masters.
R. W., Eugene Grissom and Thos. S. Kenan, Past Deputy Grand Masters.
R. W., Samuel H. Rountree, Past Junior Grand Warden.

Bro. C. B. Edwards, from the Committee on Credentials, submitted a report, which was read and recommitted to the committee to complete the same as Representatives appeared. The following is the report as completed :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your Committee on Credentials have examined the credentials submitted to them, and beg leave to report Lodges represented, as follows :

ST. JOHN'S,	No. 1	J. I. Macks, W. M.; E. S. Martin, proxy for S. W.
ST. JOHN'S,	" 3	A. W. Wood, proxy for Officers.
PHALANX,	" 31	F. H. Glover, W. M.
STOKES,	" 32	W. G. Campbell, W. M.
DAVIE,	" 39	J. C. Tynes, W. M.; W. C. Liverman, J. W.
HIRAM,	" 40	Eugene Grissom, W. M.; S. M. Parish, S. W.; S. W. Walker, J. W.
HALL,	" 53	A. O. Edson, Proxy.
KING SOLOMON,	" 56	R. T. Stephenson, W. M.; John B. McRae, proxy for S. W.
CONCORD,	" 58	Donald Williams, W. M.
EAGLE,	" 71	C. E. Parish, W. M.; H. L. Parish, proxy for S. W.
GOLDEN FLEECE,	" 74	George Williamson and George W. Burton, proxies.
WIDOW'S SON,	" 75	T. B. Boushall, W. M.
GREENSBORO,	" 76	Alfred H. Stubbs, proxy for Officers.
ZION,	" 81	S. H. Rountree, Rep.
FELLOWSHIP,	" 84	Elias Rose, S. W.; A. C. Nichols, J. W.
JOSEPH WARREN,	" 92	F. M. Moye, W. M.
JERUSALEM,	" 95	W. H. Johnson, W. M.
ST. JOHN'S,	" 96	S. H. Rountree, W. M.
HIRAM,	" 98	D. A. Culbreth, W. M.
WAYNE,	" 112	I. Fuchtlar, Rep.
HOLLY SPRING,	" 115	J. G. Langston, S. W.
MT. LEBANON,	" 117	Lat Williams, J. W.
MT. HERMON,	" 118	A. J. Blair, W. M.
FRANKLINTON,	" 123	W. H. Mitchell, W. M.; N. M. Barrow, S. W.; Jesse Cordell, J. W.
MILL CREEK,	" 125	John E. Warren, Rep.; N. W. Smith, S. W.; E. Pope, Rep.
HANKS,	" 128	G. Rosenthal, proxy for Officers.
MOUNT ENERGY,	" 140	M. L. Winston, W. M.; W. E. Jeffreys, J. W.
MOUNT VERNON,	" 143	A. L. Brooks, Rep.
PALMYRA,	" 147	Neill S. Stewart, Rep.; F. P. Jones, proxy for W. M.
ADONIRAM,	" 149	M. S. Daniel Proxy.

WHITE STONE,	No. 155	J. R. Brown, W. M.; W. H. Chamblee, S. W.; J. A. Kemp, proxy for J. W.
ROLESVILLE,	" 156	J. B. Redford, Rep.
MOUNT PLEASANT,	" 157	Dudley Peed, W. M.
KNAP OF REEDS,	" 158	John A. Waller, W. M.; J. L. Hall, proxy for S. W.
ARCHER,	" 165	J. R. Barnes, W. M.; T. R. Christman, proxy for J. W.
WINSTON,	" 167	A. Ryttenberg, S. W.
GEORGE WASHINGTON,	" 174	S. G. Wilson, W. M.
MECKLENBURG,	" 176	W. P. Williams, W. M.; W. A. Withers, proxy for Wardens.
SANDY CREEK,	" 185	C. E. Gupton, S. W.
PINE FOREST,	" 186	T. A. Harrington, J. W.
CENTRAL CROSS,	" 187	W. A. Moore, W. M.
GRANITE,	" 191	J. H. Boon, S. W.
EAGLE ROCK,	" 201	P. P. Pace, S. W.
ROANOKE,	" 203	Exum Lewis, Rep.
BEREA,	" 204	A. R. Slaughter, J. W.; John Mitchell, proxy for W. M.
MINGO,	" 206	R. A. Draughon, W. M.
RICHLAND,	" 214	Jas. A. Leach, Rep.
WILLIAM G. HILL,	" 218	John W. Thompson, W. M.; David Rosenthal, S. W.; E. G. Harrell, J. W.
CORINTHIAN,	" 230	D. Abrams, Rep.
WILLIAM T. BAIN,	" 231	W. R. Stephenson, proxy for W. M.; Anderson Betts, J. W.
LENOIR,	" 233	S. I. Sutton, W. M.; W. B. Reid, S. W.
ANCHOR,	" 234	N. M. Bunch, proxy for Officers.
ATLANTIC,	" 238	A. O. Edson, J. W.
ROUNTREE,	" 243	Louis Kilpatrick, J. W.
PYTHAGORAS,	" 249	E. S. Martin, Rep.
BEULAH,	" 257	Jesse Kirby, S. W., John Q. Davis, Rep.
HARNETT,	" 258	A. N. Campbell, W. M.
WAYNESVILLE,	" 259	C. F. Gilbert, proxy for Officers.
WATAUGA,	" 273	D. W. Bain, proxy for Officers.
GREEN LEVEL,	" 277	Augustus Herndon, S. W.; L. S. Yates, proxy for W. M.
SAPONA,	" 280	M. G. Johnson, S. W.; J. R. Pattisall, J. W.; Jos. Rosser, proxy for W. M.
GREENVILLE,	" 284	Jesse L. Sugg, Proxy.
FRENCH BROAD,	" 292	J. Wakefield Cortland, Proxy.
STONEWALL,	" 296	J. A. Whitley, W. M.
EDGECOMBE,	" 298	W. L. Grimmer, J. W.

PLEASANT HILL,	No. 304.....	S. H. Rountree,	Proxy.
LAURINBURG,	" 305.....	William H. McLaurin,	W. M.
GALATIA,	" 306	D. A. Blue,	S. W.
HATCHER,	" 310.....	William Hinnant,	S. W.
JERUSALEM,	" 315.....	D. W. Bain,	proxy for Officers.
EUREKA,	" 317.....	E. F. Lamb,	Rep.
WILMINGTON,	" 319.....	W. P. Oldham, W. M.; Sam'l Northrop,	
		proxy for J. W.	
SELMA,	" 320.....	A. M. Noble,	Proxy.
WHITE HILL,	" 321.....	Alexander Gilchrist, William Rogers,	
		Reps.	
BAYBORO',	" 331.....	W. D. Alfred, W. M.; L. J. Potter, J. W.	
FAIRVIEW,	" 339.....	B. F. Dixon,	Rep.
TRAP HILL,	" 346.....	W. E. Anderson,	proxy for Officers.
MOUNT MOURNE,	" 347.....	W. P. Williams,	proxy for Officers.
DELLAPLANE,	" 355.....	C. B. Edwards,	Proxy.
MT. VERNON,	" 359.....	T. L. McLees,	Rep.
MOUNT PISGAH,	" 368.....	L. D. Baucom, W. M.; C. R. Scott, S. W.	
ELK,	" 373.....	H. M. Cowan,	proxy for Rep.
YOUNGSVILLE,	" 377.....	J. M. Winston, W. M.; T. L. Moss, S. W.	
SEABOARD,	" 378	Albert Daughtrey,	W. M.
COHARIE,	" 379.....	D. A. Culbreth,	Rep.
GRANVILLE,	" 380.....	B. Walker,	Rep.
REIDSVILLE,	" 384.....	A. J. Ellington,	W. M.
KEDRON,	" 387.....	J. Wakefield Cortland, proxy for Officers.	
TALLY HO'	" 393.....	Sherman Peed,	Proxy.
CAPE FEAR,	" 394.....	J. E. Lucas, W. M.; D. C. Culbreth,	
		J. W.	
ORIENT,	" 395.....	W. R. Kenan,	Proxy.
OXFORD,	" 396.....	D. C. White, W. M.; J. W. Hays, S.	
		W.; J. W. Hunt, proxy for J. W.	
CONOHO,	" 399.....	J. A. Whitley,	Rep.
NEWFOUND,	" 400.....	C. F. Gilbert,	S. W.
SILER CITY,	" 403.....	Daniel P. Beal,	Rep.
IVY,	" 406.....	D. W. Bain,	proxy for Officers.
UNIVERSITY,	" 408..	N. B. Henry,	W. M.
BULA,	" 409.....	W. G. Adams,	W. M.
ASHEVILLE,	" 410.....	J. Wakefield Cortland,	W. M.

Faternally submitted,

C. B. EDWARDS,
SAM'L H. ROUNTREE,
Committee.

The Grand Master delivered his Annual Address, which was referred to a special committee, announced by the Deputy Grand Master, as follows: Bros. G. W. Blount, F. H. Busbee, P. G. M.'s, and Eugene Grissom, P. D. G. M.

ADDRESS.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

The first year of the second century of our existence has passed away, and we are assembled around our sacred altar to review its records and deliberate for our future actions. To the Divine Being who has so loved us that He has spared us and kept us in peace, and provided for us according to our necessities, we render our thanks, and have humbly implored His blessing and guidance.

Dear brethren, it is my privilege to greet you. From the seaboard, from the mountains, from the land of the murmuring pines, from the hills and valleys of the Piedmont—from all portions of our beloved commonwealth we are come to sit down together as brethren, to clasp hands, and renew our devotions to the sacred principles of Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love.

With the joy of our meeting comes the mingling of sadness; in the arrangement of music and harmony is the blending of major and minor chords, the latter touching our emotions and often starting to our eyes the tear of sympathy. So do joys and sorrows blend in human affairs. Some of our brethren beloved, who entered this past Masonic year with us, have laid down the working tools, their hands have been folded across their breasts, and their friends and brethren have laid them away, waiting the resurrection, when the Great Architect will make up his jewels. Would that I could name them all and recount their virtues! Of some I am constrained to speak.

On the 2d day of November Bro. William N. Benton, our Junior Grand Deacon, died at Smithfield. For the past ten years his face has been a familiar one in the Grand Lodge, and he has been an active and zealous Mason in Fellowship Lodge, No. 84. I tender to his bereaved family the sympathy of the Grand Lodge, and we sorrow with them that we shall see his face no more.

Bro. William P. Gurley, of Windsor, Bertie county, died on the 8th day of September. He was elected Worshipful Master of Charity Lodge, No. 5, in 1857, and held this office continuously until his death—a term of thirty years. There is probably no other instance of this kind on our records. An esteemed brother, a member of his Lodge, speaks of him thus: "He was the most charitable man I ever knew, especially to the poor and needy, the only real objects of charity from whom he could expect no return; and it was of that kind which did not let his left hand know what his right hand did. He loved the Order for its great moral and social precepts, and humanly speaking, he performed them to the letter." What can I say more but that the condition

of the Lodge he controlled so long shows how much a good Master can influence his Lodge in its character and standing.

Bro. Augustus Edwards died in Goldsboro, August 28th. He was W. M. of Wayne Lodge, No. 112, when he died, and the testimony of his brethren is, that he was of good character, honest and industrious.

Bro. Christopher L. Grafflin, a member of Wilmington Lodge, No. 319, died October 2d. He was a conscientious Christian, an upright successful business man, a true, reliable, charitable Mason.

Bro. James F. Rives, first Master of Mt. Vernon Lodge, No. 143, died January 23d, 1887, aged 66 years.

Dr. D. G. W. Ward died February 15th, 1887. He was a Past Master of Joseph Warren Lodge, No. 92, and Senior Warden of said Lodge at the time of his death. Dr. Ward was one of the most zealous and intelligent Masons in the State, and held in highest estimation for his sterling moral worth by all who knew him.

John Benjamin Kingsbury, aged 76 years. He was one of the oldest living Masons in North Carolina at the time of his death, having been an active member of the Order for 55 years. During that time he was a charter member of seven different Lodges; Worshipful Master of four at their organization. He was a member of the Royal Arch Chapter, and for one or two terms was High Priest at Germanton, N. C. He assisted in forming four new Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. He was a very bright Mason, and zealous in the cause of the Order. He served his Lodges with fidelity and zeal; even in death his Lodge was uppermost in his mind, and his last words were, "The Craft have been called from labor to refreshment." He was a member of Dobson Lodge, No. 402. Died February 17, 1887.

Let us keep in sacred memory our beloved dead, holding their virtues in perpetual record, and in our lives show forth the principles of true Masonry.

THE GENERAL CONDITION OF THE ORDER.

I think I may reasonably congratulate you on the progress the Order has made during the past year. The jurisdiction is in one respect a difficult one for the Grand Master. It is so extended that it is almost impossible for him to do the visiting necessary, without very much expense. I am satisfied it would be very beneficial if some Grand Officer could visit each Subordinate Lodge at least once every year. A large number of country lodges have many obstacles to contend with, and the fact that they continue to exist is a testimony to the love of Masonry that no trouble or trial will overcome.

I have during the year visited several lodges, viz: Fellowship, No. 84, Smithfield; Charity, No. 5, Windsor, Bertie county; Pythagoras, No. 249, Southport; St. John's, No. 1; Orient, No. 395; Wilmington, No. 319, at Wilmington; Oxford, No. 396, and Durham, No. 352, nearly all of which are prospering and doing good work, and from many others I have had good reports, and I believe there is a new interest felt and a desire to become skilled in the work and more worthy men and Masons.

In many of our sister Grand Jurisdictions there is a system of visiting from one lodge to another, the visiting lodge exemplifying the work, and these visitations are followed by a banquet, at which there is social pleasure. It would seem difficult to do much of this in our Jurisdiction, on account of distance and expense, but I think where it could be done it would be productive of good and bring out a generous rivalry, and supply a want felt in our social intercourse.

I think in many of the lodges there is too little attention paid to the attractiveness of the lodge-room and its furnishing, and many brethren who take a pride in the comforts and surroundings of their homes—which I heartily commend—are very indifferent about the condition of the lodge. Make the places of meeting delightful places. I know that where the membership is small and the means of the brethren are limited and the needs of the Orphan Asylum are constantly before them, it is not possible to have a luxurious hall, but a little care would make it clean and comfortable, and a place to be enjoyed.

I think there is a growing interest in the Order; that a good many of our best young men are seeking admission, and I attribute this to the fact that the management of the Orphan Asylum has been in the hands of Masons of such high character and standing and its claims have taken such a strong hold in the hearts of the people, and also to the fact that the teachings of the Order have been such as to commend them to all good people.

The principles of Masonry are best illustrated by the lives of the Masons, and in my close official relation to my brethren I have been impressed with the high character and standing they maintain, and in the Masonry they practice and live.

In the excellent address of Past Grand Master Busbee, at our last Annual Communication, he alluded to the "social features of Masonry," and gave us many timely and practical suggestions in regard to this subject. I do not know that I can add anything that will be of value, but a few thoughts may be presented.

We are all well aware that great changes have taken place in the habits and customs of men during the last century, and, with increased culture and refined tastes, the methods of enjoyment have changed. Our ancient brethren found their enjoyment in convivial feasts and grosser pleasures, possibly, that would not suit our times or be consistent with our Masonic character; and yet, we must have something to interest us socially. We occupy the peculiar position of being the great conservative Society of the world, and I say this without any wish or intention to derogate from the many other noble Orders that are founded on good principles and doing great good to mankind. The solid foundation on which we build is belief in God. "No atheist can be made a Mason." Belief in God carries with it the belief in His control of the Universe and the direction of all affairs, and this involves a belief in our individual responsibility to Him, and the duty of conforming to His moral law. There is no place in our Order for Anarchists or conspirators against government and law; the teachings of Masonry accord with the law of God. It seems to me if every Mason

could realize the grand mission of our Order and its responsibility to the world and the opportunity it affords to all good men to stand up under its mighty sheltering fold against all the discordant elements that seem to be threatening our land, that there would be no want of interest felt in attending the communications of the lodges, and no lack of interesting questions to be discussed.' I confess I fail to see why Masonry should be denounced by any church or religious believer, as I regard it as the coadjutor to true religion. When Cardinal Gibbons was urging the claims of the Knights of Labor in his address to the Pope, he used these words: "There exists an organization which presents a thousand attractions, a thousand advantages, but which our Catholic toilers with filial submission refuse to accept. It is the Masonic organization which spreads all over our country, which, as Mr. Powderly explicitly said, unites the employer and employee in a fraternity which is very advantageous to the latter," etc. This testimony from high authority is true. Shall there be a want of interest in such a fraternity.

FRATERNAL COURTESIES.

I received from the Grand Lodge of Maryland an invitation to be present at the Centennial celebration of that Grand Lodge, at Baltimore, May 10th, 1887, which I was sorry to be obliged to decline, on account of the special meeting of the Grand Lodge at Smithfield, on the same day. A copy of the proceedings shows the occasion to have been a delightful re-union, sustaining the reputation of our Maryland brethren for the most unbounded hospitality.

In July I received a personal invitation from the M. W. Grand Master of Vermont, Bro. Alfred A. Hall, to be present and assist at the laying of the corner-stone, August 16th, 1887, of a monument to be erected at Bennington, commemorating the battle of Bennington, fought August 16th, 1777, between the Americans, under General John Stark, and the Hessian forces from General Burgoyne's army, which resulted in a decisive victory for the Green Mountain Boys, and hastened the overthrow and surrender of General Burgoyne's army. The monument is to be three hundred feet in height and erected by the States of Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, assisted by the Government. The ceremony of laying the corner-stone was very impressive. The Governors of Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, and many distinguished men were present. The procession was made up of a Brigade of State troops, a Battery of Artillery, several Commanderies of Knights Templar, Cantons of Patriarchs Militant, Odd Fellows and lodges of Masons. The M. W. Past Grand Master, Parkman, of Massachusetts, (a venerable and beloved brother), and the M. W. Grand Master, of New Hampshire, were present and assisted in the ceremony, and from these M. W. brethren and the Grand Lodge of Vermont, which is a remarkably fine looking body of men, almost rivaling our Grand Lodge—I received the kindest fraternal courtesy, which I now desire to acknowledge.

RECORDS OF THE GRAND LODGE.

The records of the Grand Lodge, from 1787 to 1808 are in one manuscript book and always liable to be destroyed. I recommend the printing of a number of copies of this book, for the preservation of these records.

GRAND REPRESENTATIONS.

On the recommendations of the Grand Masters of their respective jurisdictions I have commissioned the following representatives:

A. C. Golding, near the Grand Lodge of Connecticut; Jesse W. Lee, Jr., near the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia; A. M. Wollihin, near the Grand Lodge of Georgia; and there have been appointed the following representatives of other Grand bodies near this Grand Lodge: Jno. W. Cotten, representative of the Grand Lodge of Oregon; Samuel Northrop, representative of the Grand Lodge of Vermont.

DECISIONS.

A number of decisions have been made, but most of them have been repetitions of former published decisions. I will mention such as may be of interest:

1st. Every wilful violation of the criminal law of the land by a Mason is a masonic offense, regardless of the fact that the person against whom it is committed be not a Mason.

2d. Can a lodge dimitting a member bring charges against him for an offense alleged to have been committed before the dimit was granted?

Held: That it can. [Mitchell's Digest, Vol. 2, page 577.]

3d. No Mason can be called to account for the vote he has deposited. No enquiry on this subject can be entertained; no information can be received. [Mackey's Masonic Jurisprudence.]

4th. A petition for degrees must be signed by the petitioner; cannot be signed by a proxy.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS.

There have been six Special Communications of the Grand Lodge during the year.

On the 10th of May, at the request of Fellowship Lodge, No. 84, I laid the corner-stone of the Confederate Monument in the Cemetery at Smithfield, to perpetuate the memory of Confederate soldiers who were killed at the battle of Bentonville. The attendance was large, and an excellent address was delivered by Bro. A. M. Waddell, very valuable for its accurate history of that battle.

On the 12th of May I laid the corner-stone of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church South, in Wilmington. There was a gratifying attendance of Masons, a large concourse of good people of Wilmington, and an excellent Masonic address was delivered by Bro. Eugene S. Martin.

July 23d, the corner-stone of the Hall of Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 143, at Ore Hill, was laid by Bro. W. E. Murchison, acting as Grand Master.

October 1st, I laid the corner-stone of the court house at Windsor, Bertie county, by the invitation of the County Commissioners, through Charity Lodge, No. 5. There was an immense concourse of people present, and an appropriate address was delivered by Hon. F. D. Winston. I desire to thank the brethren of Charity Lodge, No. 5, for their kindness and the cordial hospitality extended me.

October 4th, the corner-stone of Damascus Church was laid, in Gates county, near Sunsbury, under the auspices of Lily Valley Lodge, No. 252, Bro. W. H. Riddick acting as Grand Master. I received a cordial invitation to perform this ceremony from Lily Valley Lodge, but could not attend.

November 17th, I laid the corner-stone of the court house in Durham. The invitation came from the Commissioners of Durham county through the Worshipful Master of Durham Lodge, No. 352. It was a delightful occasion, a notable assembly of the good people of Durham and an address by the Hon. Thos W. Mason, of Northampton county, that was appreciated by the large spell-bound audience. Bro. Bain, Grand Secretary, and Bro. Bradley, Grand Tiler, and myself, were the guests of the county, and received the courtesies of Durham Lodge to the full.

INFORMATION RESPECTING LODGES.

The report of the Grand Secretary will give you the information as to the establishment of new lodges, the surrender of charters by some, and restoration of others, and the statistical condition of the Order.

THE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

The statement of the excellent Superintendent of the Asylum and the report of the Board of Directors will be presented to you, and will detail the operations of the institution for the past year. It is the pride and glory of the Grand Lodge, and I am happy to be able to say it has enjoyed a prosperous year. A larger number of children have been cared for, and the contributions of the good people have been liberal, and the financial condition comfortable.

I had the pleasure of meeting a number of the brethren at the Asylum on the 24th of June, 1887, St. John's Day, when a large number of good people of Oxford and Granville county assembled in the chapel, under the auspices of Oxford Lodge. The exercises were delightful, the children happy, and by their songs and recitations found their way into the hearts of the audience. Several short addresses were delivered, and the Superintendent and his estimable wife, and the efficient assistants, were congratulated on the perfect condition of every department of the Asylum. I am satisfied it should be made the order of the Grand Lodge that it should meet at the Asylum on St. John's Day in June, annually. It will bring us together socially, and it will bring to the personal

knowledge of the fraternity the magnitude and importance of the work we are doing, and no one can visit the place and see the children and realize the blessedness of the charity without determining to do more for it.

Our first Grand Master, in his Proverbs, tells us: "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord, and that which he hath given will He pay him again." Have we been repaid? A thousand times yes! It has done more for the Grand Lodge and our Order than can be expressed. Shakespeare says of mercy: "It blesseth him that gives and him that takes." It has done *more* than to return the blessing to us. It has set an example that has been followed by several religious denominations who now have Orphan Asylums in our State. There is room for all, need for all, and God's blessing will be upon all. It is the brightest jewel in our crown. Keep it pure and sparkling, that its rays may send light and warmth into every Lodge in our Jurisdiction.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the fraternity for the respect and kindness extended to me during the year. I came to this office with hesitation, knowing I had to throw myself upon the forbearance and consideration of my brethren; but I had known them so long, and known them to possess such a fund of patience and charity, that I was willing to rely upon their countenance and support. My trust was well founded. I have done all in my power to hold up the standard of Masonry, and ask you to overlook all shortcomings and forgive all failures.

C. H. ROBINSON, *Grand Master*.

The Grand Secretary submitted his annual report, which was read and referred to the Committee on the Grand Secretary's Books and Report:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

I have the honor to submit another annual report.

The returns for the Masonic year, 1886, reported a membership of six thousand and fifty-four. Adding the membership of Lodges from which returns were not received, the total number of affiliated Masons was six thousand, six hundred and six. The number of Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction is two hundred and twenty-two, nearly all of which have made returns, showing a net gain in membership of about one hundred.

Most of the Lodges have made some progress. Some have been prosperous. The financial stringency which formerly affected all classes of business, having in a measure, relaxed, many of our Lodges give evidence of the beneficial effects of the improved condition of affairs.

The correspondence in this office shows that the demand for Masonic instruction is increasing. Grand Lecturers have had more to do than usual. In brief, to sum up the year's operations, the outlook for our Order in this Jurisdiction is encouraging.

LODGES ESTABLISHED.

The Grand Master issued Dispensations establishing six new Lodges, as follows :

February 5th, 1887, Rockville, at Stanhope, Nash county.

February 17th, 1887, Maxton, at Maxton, Robeson county.

May 14th, 1887, Asheville, at Asheville, Buncombe county.

July 16th, 1887, Liberty Grove, at Liberty Grove Church, Wilkes county.

September 17th, 1887, University, at Chapel Hill, Orange county.

November 10th, 1887, Bula, at Burlington, Alamance county.

The following Lodges were continued under Dispensation :

Union, at Enochville, Rowan county, which has ceased to exist, and Yadkin Falls near Milledgeville Post-office, Montgomery county, the location being in Stanly county.

Scotch Ireland Lodge, No. 154, in Rowan county, resumed work under the authority of the Grand Master, who restored its charter and property.

Scotland Neck Lodge, No. 68, Scotland Neck, Halifax county, recently applied for and received permission of the Grand Master to resume work.

Other dormant or extinct Lodges contemplate a similar course.

I have made special efforts in the direction of a resuscitation of dormant or extinct Lodges, and results have, in a measure, been satisfactory. There is an apparent disinclination on the part of the brethren in some localities (including a number of towns where flourishing Lodges once existed) to reorganize under their original charters. Some prefer to establish new Lodges, with a more congenial membership than that which made up the old Lodges.

There are at least five thousand Masons in this Jurisdiction who are not affiliated with the Lodges, made so either by the disorganization of their Lodges or exclusion for non-payment of dues. The course taken by me, as indicated in the foregoing statement, was with a view to restore to the Craft the active labors of as many as possible of that large class of our brethren, and thus increase or reestablish the influence of our Order in localities where, as I have reason to know, there is need of it.

REMOVAL OF LODGES.

Scotch Ireland Lodge, No. 154, has removed its place of meeting from Mount Vernon, Rowan county, to the town of Cleaveland in the same county.

Granite Lodge, No. 191, removed to Clayton, Johnston county, its original location being five miles from its recent site. These removals were in conformity to the law and were approved by the Grand Master.

REVENUE.

The receipts for the year amount to three thousand three hundred and forty-three dollars and twenty-eight cents, and are stated as follows :

Dues from Lodges for the Masonic year, 1886, and former years.....	\$ 3,190 50
Charters, deducting Grand Secretary's fees.....	76 00
Dispensations, deducting Grand Secretary's fees.....	54 00
Sales of the Code.....	13 00
Diplomas.....	1 50
Proceedings of the Grand Lodge.....	50
Sale of effects of Mount Olive Lodge, No. 208, now extinct.....	7 78

Total amount	\$ 3,343 28
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This amount has been paid to the Grand Treasurer.

DELINQUENT OR DORMANT LODGES.

I regret to have to report that the following Lodges are delinquent in paying dues for two years or more, and have forfeited their charters under Section 1. Article 9, of the Code :

Lincoln, No. 137, at Lincolnton, Lincoln county ; Randleman, No. 209, at Randleman, Randolph county ; Stokesburg, No. 220, Stokes county ; County Line, No. 224, Iredell county ; Mebaneville, No. 272, Mebaneville, Alamance county ; Wentworth, No. 324, Wentworth, Rockingham county ; Bethel, No. 372, Anson county.

Falling Creek Lodge, No. 325, Wayne county, surrendered its charter and property to the Grand Master.

I have information that some of the aforementioned Lodges will ask for a restoration of their charters, upon terms which they will lay before you through the proper committee.

EXCLUSION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

Section 2, of article 6 of the Code, as amended, is as follows : "When a Lodge has forfeited its charter and sent its records to the Grand Secretary, the former members of said Lodge may, upon a petition setting forth the said facts, become members of the nearest Lodge, or petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge."

To enable applicants for re-affiliation to meet the requirements above set forth, and to establish their good standing in the Lodges at the time the charters were surrendered, I have been applied to for certificates based on the records in my possession. I have cheerfully granted such certificates when necessary, but in some instances I was compelled to decline to give them, because the fact appeared that they had been excluded for non-payment of dues, and so remained at the time the Lodge ceased to exist. The Code makes non-

payment of dues a minor offence, the penalty for which, as the law declares, is "dismembership" or "exclusion," and has the effect of placing the members in a non-affiliated relation. Yet, by the action of the Lodge a disability rests upon them, which is not removed before the Lodge itself ceases to work. Being of opinion that the Grand Secretary had not the power to determine the question of the right of such "former members" to the certificate, I respectfully recommend that the Grand Lodge take such action as will meet the cases, and remove any doubt as to the exact status of the brethren to whom no law now seems to apply.

RETURNS OF LODGES.

I renew my suggestions to the Secretaries to make the returns to this office by the 25th of November. The relief to the Grand Secretary by the observance of this regulation would be considerable. I am pleased to say, however, that more returns have been received in advance of this Annual Communication than is usually the case, and the Lodges have been more prompt in paying dues.

GRAND LODGE LIBRARY.

By authority of the Grand Lodge, I have caused to be completed the improvements in the library. The appropriation was exceeded to a small amount, it being unavoidable and necessary.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

Commissions have been issued or received in the appointment of Grand Representatives to or from this Grand Body, as announced by the Grand Master.

I have the honor to be, fraternally yours,

D. W. BAIN,
Grand Secretary.

The Grand Treasurer submitted his annual report, which was read and referred to the Committee on Accounts and Claims.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

W. E. ANDERSON, GRAND TREASURER,

In account with the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

		DR.	
	To amount received from Grand Secretary for past Masonic year	\$ 3,343	28
	Balance carried forward to new Masonic year, being amount paid by Grand Treasurer, in excess of amount received from Grand Secretary	169	22
	Total	\$ 3,512	50
		CR.	
1887			
Jan.	11 By amount brought from last year's report, being amount due to Grand Treasurer at that date	\$ 135	50
	By amounts paid to sundry persons, as follows :		
Jan.	11 F. H. Busbee, Grand Master, expenses on service	1	25
Jan.	13 J. W. Gidney, Senior Grand Deacon, attending Annual Communication	23	65
Jan.	13 W. G. Campbell, Grand Chaplain, attending Annual Communication	13	00
Jan.	13 P. A. Wilson, Jr., Grand Steward, attending Annual Communication	12	65
Jan.	13 R. W. King, Grand Sword Bearer, attending Annual Communication	11	60
Jan.	13 G. Rosenthal, Assistant Grand Secretary, services Annual Communication	25	00
Jan.	13 C. H. Robinson, Deputy Grand Master, expenses on service,	10	50
Jan.	13 John W. Cotten, Junior Grand Deacon, attending Annual Communication	12	25
Jan.	13 C. H. Robinson, Deputy Grand Master, attending Annual Communication	8	95
Jan.	13 S. H. Smith, Senior Grand Warden, attending Annual Communication	12	65
Jan.	14 B. F. Dixon, Superintendent, on account of appropriation to Orphan Asylum, for current year	1,000	00
Jan.	14 W. N. Benton, Grand Marshal, attending Annual Communication	8	70
Jan.	14 M. R. Haynes, making box for Grand Lodge jewels	2	25
Jan.	14 H. A. Gudger, Junior Grand Warden, attending Annual Communication	24	00
Jan.	29 Edwards, Broughton & Co., for stationery, circulars, envelopes, etc., etc.	30	50
Jan.	29 R. H. Bradley, Grand Tiler, services, repairing, servant hire, etc., etc.	35	15
Feb.	1 News & Observer, advertising Annual Communication	5	00
Feb.	1 Western Union Telegraph Company, for official telegram		37
Feb.	1 Crow & Syme, Agents, \$7,000 insurance on Orphan Asylum,	99	44
Feb.	14 S. A. Ashe, Postmaster, stamps for Grand Secretary	2	00
Mar.	1 Alfred Williams & Co., stationery, pens, etc.	3	70
Mar.	12 John Wanamaker, stationery for Grand Master	18	80
Mar.	12 State Chronicle, advertising Annual Communication	1	50
	Amount carried forward,	\$ 1,498	41

		Amount brought forward,	\$1,498	41
Mar.	24	North Carolina Home Insurance Company, \$4,000 insurance on building and furniture Orphan Asylum,	64	75
Mar.	28	F. H. Cameron & Company, Agents, \$2,000 insurance on building and furniture of Orphan Asylum	23	13
April	1	E. M. Uzzell, for tickets, badges and expenses connected with the celebration of the Centennial of Masonry in North Carolina	28	00
May	9	S. A. Ashe, Postmaster, postage on proceedings of Grand Lodge	42	24
May	9	Edwards, Broughton & Co., proceedings of Grand Lodge, envelopes, etc.	223	85
May	10	R. H. Bradley, Grand Tiler, expenses attending laying corner-stone of Confederate Monument at Smithfield, N. C.	14	90
May	13	H. C. Prempert, acting Grand Tiler, services rendered, ...	5	00
May	14	Southern Express Co., express on package jewels to Grand Master	45	
May	14	Gabe Allen, drayage on proceedings of Grand Lodge	35	
May	30	North Carolina Home Insurance Company, insurance on contents Grand Secretary's office	6	90
June	7	Southern Express Company, freight on package to Bro. Eugene S. Martin, Wilmington	25	
June	18	S. M. Parish, glass and glazing in Grand Secretary's office,	2	00
June	18	Southern Express Company, freight on packages from Wilmington	70	
June	18	Daily Review, Wilmington, advertising Special Communication	2	00
June	18	Morning Star, Wilmington, advertising Special Communication	2	25
July	25	S. M. Parish, painting in Grand Secretary's office	4	50
July	28	S. A. Ashe, Postmaster, stamped envelopes for Grand Secretary	11	00
Aug.	5	T. H. Briggs, work on office of Grand Secretary	58	00
Aug.	31	E. M. Uzzell, 100 copies of Grand Master Busbee's address,	5	00
Sept.	19	E. S. Martin, Private Secretary to Grand Master, six months services	50	00
Sept.	19	Southern Express Company, freight on proceedings Grand Lodge	40	
Sept.	19	Southern Express Company, freight on proceedings	25	
Oct.	21	S. A. Ashe, Postmaster, postage stamps for Grand Secretary's office	3	00
Oct.	22	Southern Express Company, freight on proceedings,	45	
Nov.	7	B. F. Dixon, Superintendent, on account of appropriation to Orphan Asylum for current year	500	00
Nov.	7	Western Union Telegraph Company, official telegram	40	
Nov.	7	Southern Express Company, freight on package to Wilmington	35	
Nov.	7	Southern Express Company, freight on package from Wilmington	35	
Dec.	3	C. H. Robinson, Grand Master, expenses of travel, etc., incident to his office	38	47
Dec.	8	A. Jordan, freight and drayage on effects of Mount Olive Lodge, surrendered	78	
Dec.	29	R. H. Bradley, Grand Tiler, attending called Communication at Durham	6	55
		Amount carried forward,	\$2,594	68

		Amount brought forward,	\$2,594 68
1888			
Jan.	2	E. S. Martin, Private Secretary to the Grand Master, balance of salary for current year	50 00
Jan.	7	D. W. Bain, Grand Secretary, salary for Masonic year 1886,	700 00
Jan.	7	R. H. Bradley, material and making 151 aprons	17 82
Jan.	10	Commissions allowed Grand Treasurer for past Masonic year	150 00
		Total	\$3,512 50
		Balance due the Grand Treasurer, amount carried forward to new Masonic year	\$ 169 22

The same amount of insurance has been maintained on the Oxford Orphan Asylum buildings for the past year as has been in force for several years past, to-wit, the sum of thirteen thousand dollars on buildings and furniture, and the sum of six hundred dollars has been kept on the contents of the office of the Grand Secretary in Raleigh, and at a cost of \$194.22 for all, as will be seen by the vouchers filed.

The Moore legacy of one thousand dollars to the Oxford Orphan Asylum is still kept on bond and mortgage, upon which the interest is regularly paid at eight per cent., and turned over to the Superintendent of the Asylum as paid to the Grand Treasurer. It is secured upon two hundred and ninety acres of land, near the town of Clayton, in Johnston county, estimated to be worth between ten and fifteen dollars per acre, and is thought to be as amply secured as when it was made, under Grand Master Busbee's administration.

The jewels and aprons ordered by the Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication, to be made for the Grand Stewards, have been furnished, and conform as nearly as possible to those made last year for the other Grand Officers, and are neat and handsome. They cost forty dollars for the two sets, and freight, from New York.

It will be seen, by reference to the footings of the report, that the balance against the Grand Lodge, and in favor of the Grand Treasurer, at the close of the financial year, is one hundred and sixty-nine dollars and twenty-two cents, and is thirty-three dollars and seventy-two cents greater than the deficit was at the close of the previous year. Special attention is called to the fact, too, that this year, with a deficit of one hundred and sixty-nine dollars and twenty-two cents, the amount paid to the Superintendent of the Orphan Asylum, is five hundred dollars less than the amount paid him the year before, when the general deficit was one hundred and thirty-five dollars and fifty cents, and five hundred dollars less than the amount appropriated by the last Grand Lodge for that excellent institution. This state of affairs, which so nearly touches one of the chiefest interests fostered by Masonry in North Carolina, and an aggravation of which may next year seriously affect it, would seem to demand some special legislation at this Communication. As it now appears that such legislation will have to be in the direction of an increase of revenue, or a diminu-

tion of expenses, I merely direct your attention to it, without suggesting the manner of its doing.

As chairman of the Committee on Printing, I report that the contract for printing the proceedings of the last Annual Communication, with the Appendix and Special Communications, was, after inviting proposals for the execution of the work, awarded to Messrs. Edwards, Broughton & Co., of Raleigh, and as you will see, has been done neatly and in a workmanlike manner, and at a very reasonable price, costing the sum of two hundred and sixteen dollars.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. ANDERSON,
Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Secretary presented a memorial from St. John's Lodge, No. 1; Wilmington Lodge, No. 319, and Orient Lodge, No. 395, of the city of Wilmington, praying a repeal of the edict of this Grand Body, which provides that members of Lodges excluded for non-payment of dues may be reinstated by a majority vote.

On motion of Bro. F. H. Busbee, Past Grand Master, the memorial was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, with the request that a report be made on or before 3 o'clock P. M. to-morrow, to be taken up as the special order for that hour.

Bro. E. S. Martin introduced the following amendment to the Code, which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence:

Resolved, That the amendment to Article XIII, Section 12, sub-Section 3 of the Code, enacted at the Annual Communication of 1886, (Proceedings of 1886, page 48), be amended by striking out the word "*majority*" in the second line of paragraph 3, and inserting the words *unanimous vote*, in lieu thereof.

Bro. B. F. Dixon, Superintendent of the Orphan Asylum, submitted the following report, which was referred to the Committee on the Orphan Asylum, being the report previously submitted to the Board of Directors of said institution:

To the Directors of the Oxford Orphan Asylum:

GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor of submitting herewith the fifteenth annual report of the Oxford Orphan Asylum for the year ending December 31st, 1887.

In my last annual report, submitted to you at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge for 1886, we then had 204 children on our rolls. We have admitted during the present year 89, discharged 71, and one has died, leaving now in the Asylum 221, making a total of 293 children provided for during the year.

RECEIPTS.

On hand at beginning of year	\$ 994 28
Received from State Treasurer.....	10,000 00
“ “ Grand Treasurer Grand Lodge.....	1,500 00
“ “ Powell estate	1,105 27
“ “ Earnhardt estate.....	352 25
“ “ Orphans' Friend	1,107 29
“ “ all other sources.....	4,013 82
Total.....	<u>\$19,072 91</u>

We have paid out during the year, for all purposes, including \$1,250.00 on land debt, balance due on Industrial Building, improvements on farm, in the various buildings of the institution, such as new furniture, fitting up shoe shop, and current expenses, \$18,428.27, leaving a balance on hand of \$644.64.

THE SHOE SHOP.

We commenced work in our shoe department the first of last May, and under the management of Mr. J. W. Smith, who is a man of sterling integrity and a first-class workman, we feel assured that the department is and will be a decided success. We are working six boys in that shop.

Value of work done for orphans.....	\$301 15
Value of work done for other parties.....	358 50
Total.....	<u>\$659 65</u>
Amount of shop tools, leather, &c., on hand.....	224 27
	<u>\$883 92</u>
Expenditure for leather, tools and wages.....	812 06
	<u>\$ 71 86</u>

THE "ORPHANS' FRIEND."

Our printing department is now upon the advancing waves of progress. Bro. L. Thomas still has charge of this work, and I am glad to state that he is every way "worthy and well qualified."

The gross receipts of this department for the year have been \$3,097.06. The expenditures, including steam engine, which now runs all the presses in the

office, together with the laundry in the basement, and also a complete new outfit of type, have been \$1,989.77, leaving a balance of \$1,107.29. The printing office is now fully equipped, and is in fine condition for work. We have been printing *The Berea Watchman* and *The Orphans' Advocate* in our office during the past year. Eight boys work in this office, and some of them can handle a "stick" equal to best printers in the State. *The Orphans' Friend* has been increasing in circulation until we now have about 3,000 subscribers who pay for the paper.

THE FARM AND GARDEN.

The Asylum has been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Alfred Palmer, an experienced gardener, to take charge of this department of our institution. He is certainly "the right man in the right place."

The farm and garden have paid us handsomely during the year. We have had an abundance of vegetables for the children, and the farm and garden have been enriched and improved in various ways. Strawberries have been planted, and a large vineyard started, which, together with the new hot-beds and asparagus patches, &c., will serve to make the garden and farm far more productive in the future.

HEALTH.

The health of the children has been remarkably good. During at least ten months of the year I did not give to any of the children a single dose of medicine. The little girl who died during the year, was admitted to the Asylum in an unhealthy condition, and she gradually sunk under the effects of the disease long implanted in her system.

IMPROVEMENTS.

The annex to the Boys' Building, which your Board gave me permission to erect at your last meeting, has not yet been built, but is still a necessity, and I earnestly hope to be able to put it up within the next few months. The question of bread and meat, clothing and shelter for the unfed, unclothed and unsheltered children of North Carolina, has been the great question with which I have had to wrestle during the year. Notwithstanding the establishment of other homes for orphans in North Carolina, the applications for admission into the Oxford Orphan Asylum have been rapidly increasing. We now have on file between 80 and 90 applications for admission, and some of them are very urgent. There are at least 1,000 children in North Carolina to-day who ought to be taken away from the vicious surroundings and evil tendencies to which they are subjected, and placed in an Asylum for orphans. This great work of providing for all in our power has kept us from making many improvements which we desired to make.

WOOD SHOP.

I have been unable to decide upon the kind of work which we ought to do in this department. We have a large and splendid room, and notwithstanding the fact that I have corresponded freely with various establishments of wood work in the country, and have visited one or two in person, I have been unable to decide, thus far, which will pay us best. My preference, however, with the lights before me, is for the manufacture of brooms or small handles. A factory of this kind can be started with less expense than any other. I do not want to make a mistake, and would prefer, with your consent, to investigate further before deciding upon anything.

SCHOOL ROOMS.

The following changes have been made in our corps of teachers: Miss Carrie M. Rishton, of New Berne, in place of Miss Mary V. Marsh, for 3d form girls; Miss Florence Baugh, of Wake county, in place of Miss P. T. Montgomery, for 2d form boys; and Miss Katie Marsh, of Sampson county, in place of Miss Julia Scott, for 3d form boys. I have supplied the different forms with new books, at considerable expense, and they are now fully equipped for study. The teachers are efficient and faithful, and have done good work for our "little ones."

SEWING ROOMS.

I have found it necessary to change the matrons of both sewing rooms during the year. Miss Lois Swett, formerly of Raleigh, has charge of the girls' sewing room, in place of Miss Baugh, and Mrs. Esther D. Jones, of Carteret county, in place of Miss Simmons for boys' sewing room. Both of these ladies are experienced in the work, and both have the happy faculty of imparting instruction to those children under their charge—a quality to be eagerly sought for in all who have charge of the different departments of our Asylum. The girls make all the clothing for the boys and girls of the Asylum, under the direction of the matrons, and the knowledge they are acquiring will be of incalculable benefit to them in the days to come.

I was earnestly requested by many farmers in North Carolina to send out a contribution wagon in order to give the friends of the Asylum in the country an opportunity of contributing in kind to the Asylum. Consequently, early in this year I sent Mr. W. L. Robards, our former farm manager, in charge of a wagon and pair of mules. The contributions from this source have been liberal and valuable. My main difficulty has been, however, to keep him away from the towns and villages and confine his operations to the country. He has filled our store-rooms with cloth and articles of wearing apparel sufficient to last us for several months, but the most of it came from the towns and cities. I deem it best to discontinue the contribution wagon, and put the mules upon our farm and try to make our own support without so much begging.

THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

The Christmas gifts to the children were fully up to those of any previous year, and the occasion was one of joy and gladness to us all. Col. W. F. Beasley acted the part of Kris Kringle, with his usual success, and to the delight of all the children. I take this opportunity of returning thanks to all who so generously aided us in trying to make the children happy on Christmas day, and also to those who sent us contributions on Thanksgiving day. The offerings were more liberal this year than in any of the past years, since my connection with the Institution and I feel assured the Oxford Orphan Asylum was never more deeply loved by the people of North Carolina than it is to-day. Our Father in Heaven has blessed us in our work, and it has been a year of joy and gladness to us.

Respectfully submitted,

B. F. DIXON, *Superintendent.*

The following Standing Committees were announced :

On Charters and Dispensations :

No. 1. Bros. S. H. Rountree, Donald Williams and T. B. Boushall.

No. 2. Bros. J. I. Macks, A. J. Blair and W. H. Mitchell.

On Grand Secretary's Books and Report :

Bros. Exum Lewis, George Williamson and J. A. Waller.

On Accounts and Claims :

Bros. John W. Thompson, J. B. Redford and Neill S. Stewart.

On Unfinished Business :

Bros. R. A. Draughon, C. B. Edwards and M. L. Winston.

On Work, Proceedings and Returns of Lodges :

No. 1. Bros. S. M. Parish, A. R. Slaughter and Elias Rose.

No. 2. Bros. J. Wakefield Cortland, W. R. Stephenson and W. A. Moore.

No. 3. Bros. R. T. Stephenson, A. N. Campbell and S. I. Sutton.

Bro. Geo. W. Blount, P. G. M., on Committee on Jurisprudence, in place of Bro. H. H. Munson, P. G. M. absent, to serve during the present Communication.

Special Committee on Appeals :

Bros. C. E. Parish, John W. Hays and Bernice Walker.

Bro. G. W. Blount, P. G. M., from the Committee on the Grand Master's Address, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your Committee, to which was referred the Address of the Grand Master, with instructions to examine the same and suggest appropriate references of its subject matters, respectfully report :

They have read the address with interest, and congratulate the Grand Lodge upon the general condition of the Order as therein presented, and upon the admirable administration of the office of Grand Master during the past Masonic year. His recommendations concerning the cultivation of the social features of Masonry deserve the approbation of this Grand Body.

1. They suggest the reference of that part of the Address, pages 1 and 2, concerning the mortuary list, to a Committee on Fraternal Dead.

2. The reference of the suggestion concerning the publication of the old records to the Committee on Printing.

3. The decisions on page 6, to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

4. The report concerning the Orphan Asylum, pages 7 and 8, to the Committee on Orphan Asylum.

Respectfully,

GEO. W. BLOUNT,
F. H. BUSBEE,
EUGENE GRISSOM.

Committee.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, January 11th, 1888.

THE Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 10 o'clock, the Grand Master presiding.

The proceedings of last evening's session were read and approved.

Bro. Alpheus W. Wood, Senior Grand Deacon, appeared and occupied his seat.

Bro. Thomas S. Kenan, P. D. G. M., from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, submitted a report, which was read, adopted and ordered to be filed. Not published under regulation.

Appointments were made on committees, as follows :

Bro. W. P. Williams, in place of Bro. H. W. Reinhart, on Committee No. 1, on Suspensions and Expulsions.

Bro. E. F. Lamb, in place of Bro. W. B. Boyd, on Committee No. 2, on Suspensions and Expulsions.

Bro. J. I. Macks, from Committee No. 2, on Charters and Dispensations, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your Committee on Charters and Dispensations No. 2, respectfully report that they have examined the proceedings and returns of the following Lodges under Dispensation : Liberty Grove, at Liberty Grove Church, Wilkes county ; University Lodge, at Chapel Hill, Orange county ; Bula Lodge, at Burlington, Alamance county ; and find the same kept in a proper manner, and, therefore, recommend that charters be granted the several Lodges above named,

Fraternally,

J. I. MACKS,
A. J. BLAIR,
W. H. MITCHELL,
Committee.

Bro. C. E. Parish, from the Special Committee on Appeals, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

In the matter of the Greensboro Lodge, No. 76, against Bro. John H. Dillard, Jr.: We, the undersigned, Committee on Appeals, beg leave to report that we have carefully examined all the papers in the above entitled case, and the petition of John H. Dillard, Jr., and respectfully recommend that the proceedings and findings of Greensboro Lodge, No. 76, in the above case be confirmed.

C. E. PARISH,
JOHN W. HAYS,
Committee.

Bro. A. H. A. Williams presented a memorial from Oxford Lodge, No. 396, in the town of Oxford, praying for a

change of place of holding the Annual Communications of this Grand Body, from Raleigh to Oxford. He introduced the following resolution, and moved its reference to a special committee of five, with instructions to report to-morrow morning :

Resolved, That hereafter the Grand Lodge of North Carolina will hold its Grand Communications in the town of Oxford.

Bro. F. H. Busbee, P. G. M., moved to amend the motion so as to provide that said committee report at the next Annual Communication, and that the report of the committee be made the special order for Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock of said Annual Communication. The amendment was adopted, and the motion, as amended, was adopted.

The Grand Master subsequently appointed the following as the committee, in accordance with the foregoing action : Bros. George W. Blount, P. G. M., chairman, J. C. L. Gudger, P. D. G. M., A. H. A. Williams, John W. Thompson, and John W. Gidney.

Bro. J. I. Macks introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted :

Resolved, That the special committee to be appointed on the memorial of Oxford Lodge, No. 396, to remove the seat of the Grand Lodge from Raleigh to Oxford, be instructed to file its report with the Grand Secretary at least ninety days before the next Annual Communication, who shall cause said report to be printed and a copy sent to all the Lodges within this jurisdiction.

Bro. S. H. Rountree, from Committee No. 1, on Charters and Dispensations, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Committee No. 1, on Charters and Dispensations, have examined the proceedings of Rockville Lodge, U. D., Nash county, and recommend that it be continued under dispensation ; Asheville Lodge, U. D., Buncombe county, and recommend a charter be granted; Maxton Lodge, U. D., and recommend that it be continued under dispensation, on account of the imperfect manner in which the records are kept: first, in not giving the officers or naming the mem-

bers and visitors present. We do not know that there were seven present at the opening. Second, by not approving the minutes at closing.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL H. ROUNTREE,
DONALD WILLIAMS,

Committee.

Bro. J. Wakefield Cortland, from Committee No. 2, on Returns of Subordinate Lodges, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your Committee No. 2, on Proceedings and Returns, beg leave to report that they have examined the returns of the following Lodges, and have found them correct :

Fair Bluff, No. 190 ; Burnsville, No. 192 ; Cary, No. 198 ; Eagle Rock, No. 201 ; Cleveland, No. 202 ; Roanoke, No. 203 ; Lebanon, No. 207 ; Richland, No. 214 ; Wm. G. Hill, No. 218 ; Wilson, No. 226 ; Jonesville, No. 227 ; McCormick, No. 228 ; Corinthian, No. 230 ; W. T. Bain, No. 231 ; Lenoir, No. 233 ; Cokesbury, No. 235 ; Mystic Tie, No. 237 ; Rountree, No. 243 ; Pythagoras, No. 249 ; Rockford, No. 251 ; Lily Valley, No. 252 ; Lee, No. 253 ; Beulah, No. 257 ; Harnett, No. 258 ; Waynesville, No. 259 ; Excelsior, No. 261 ; Farmington, No. 265 ; Durbin, No. 266 ; Dunn's Rock, No. 267 ; Tabasco, No. 271 ; Green Level, No. 277 ; Rehoboth, No. 279 ; Sapona, No. 280 ; Eureka, No. 283 ; Greenville, No. 284 ; Salem, No. 289 ; Atlantic, No. 294 ; Stonewall, No. 296 ; Edgecombe, No. 298 ; Evergreen, No. 303 ; Pleasant Hill, No. 304 ; Laurinburg, No. 305 ; Patterson, No. 307 ; Randolph, No. 309 ; King Solomon, No. 313 ; New Lebanon, No. 314 ; Jerusalem, No. 315 ; Eureka, No. 317.

The following, Granite, No. 191, failed in making up summary of returns ; Berea, No. 204, no seal—seal broken ; Mingo, No. 206, no seal, month and year of charter given, but no day ; Corinthian, No. 230, no seal ; Anchor, No. 234, no seal ; Atlantic, No. 238, seal ; Watauga, No. 273, date of charter not given ; Beaver Dam, No. 276, no seal ; Flat Creek, No. 285, no seal ; French Broad, No. 292, no seal ; Vance, No. 293, no seal—seal broken ; Hunting Creek, No. 299, month and year given, no day ; Galatia, No. 306, Secretary's name not signed to summary ; Notla, No. 312, date of charter not given.

Your committee would respectfully call the attention of the M. W. Grand Lodge to the apparent haste of some of the Subordinate Lodges in making up their returns, and would suggest to them, through this Grand Lodge, that more time and thought be given in this particular, as errors and omissions entail much extra labor upon the Grand Secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

J. WAKEFIELD CORTLAND,
W. A. MOORE,

Committee.

The Grand Secretary introduced the following amendment to the Code, which was read and postponed for one day, under the requirements of the Code :

Amend Article VII, page 24 of the Code, by striking out the words "*date of charter.*"

Committees were appointed, as follows :

On the Orphan Asylum :

Bros. E. S. Martin, D. A. Culbreth, A. B. Daughtrey, C. B. Edwards and N. B. Henry.

On Fraternal Dead :

Bros. W. G. Campbell, W. P. Williams and A. H. Stubbs.

The Grand Secretary presented the report on Foreign Correspondence in printed form, with the statement that it had been prepared, with the exception of the review of a few Grand Bodies, by his associate, Bro. E. S. Martin.

On motion of Bro. J. I. Macks, the report was accepted and ordered to be published with the Proceedings, and the thanks of the Grand Lodge were expressed to the committee for the services rendered. (Published as Appendix.)

Bro. A. H. A. Williams, from Committee No. 2, on Suspensions and Expulsions, submitted the following report, which was read :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your Committee No. 2, on Suspensions and Expulsions, to whom was referred the case of Joseph Salamonsky, indefinitely suspended by Eureka Lodge, No. 317, upon the charge of disobeying legal summons and withholding the funds of the Lodge collected by him as Secretary, respectfully report that they have examined the transcript, and recommend that the sentence be affirmed.

A. H. A. WILLIAMS,

A. J. ELLINGTON.

Committee.

On motion of Bro. F. H. Busbee, P. G. M., it was ordered that the case be remanded to Eureka Lodge, No. 317, for a

more perfect transcript and evidence of the service of notice required by the Code.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, January 11th, 1888.

THE Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 3 o'clock, the Grand Master presiding.

The proceedings of this morning's session were read and approved.

Bro. S. M. Parish, from the Committee No. 1, on Returns of Lodges, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Committee No. 1 on Returns, beg leave to report that they have examined the returns of the following Lodges and find them correct:

St. John's, No. 1; Charity, No. 5; Unanimity, No. 7; Phoenix, No. 8; American George, No. 17; Phalanx, No. 31; Stokes, No. 32; Davie, No. 39; Hiram, No. 40; Hall, No. 53; Eagle, No. 71; Golden Fleece, No. 74; Morning Star, No. 85; Skewarkey, No. 90; Fellowship, No. 84; Lafayette, No. 83; Zion, No. 81; Widow's Son, No. 75; Greensboro, No. 76; Western Star, No. 91; Joseph Warren, No. 92; Jerusalem, No. 95; St. John's, No. 96; Wake Forest, No. 97; Hiram, No. 98; Fulton, No. 99; Orr, No. 104; Clinton, No. 107; Franklin, No. 109; Wayne, No. 112; Holly Spring, No. 115; Mt. Lebanon, No. 117; Mt. Hermon, No. 118; Franklinton, No. 123; Mill Creek, No. 125; Hanks, No. 128; Carolina, No. 141; Mocksville, No. 134; King Solomon, No. 138; Mt. Energy, No. 140; Mt. Vernon, No. 143; Junaluskee, No. 145; Palmyra, No. 147; Adoniram, No. 149; Chalmers, No. 151; Scotch Ireland, No. 154; Rolesville, No. 156; Mt. Pleasant, No. 157; Knap of Reeds, No. 158; Deep River, No. 164; Winston, No. 167; Blackmer, No. 170; Buffalo, No. 172; Polloksville, No. 175; Mecklenburg, No. 176; George Washington, No. 174.

The following are without seal: White Stone, No. 155; Sandy Creek, No. 185; Central Cross, No. 187; Blackmer, No. 127. The Secretary of Central

Cross Lodge, No. 187, reports seal broken and cannot be used, and the Secretary of Blackmer Lodge, No. 127, says their seal has been misplaced.

The following Lodges have date of charter, yet the date of month is not stated: Archer, No. 165; King Solomon, No. 56; Concord, No. 58; Kilwinning, No. 64; and St. John's, No. 3, give 1774 as the supposed date of their charter.

Respectfully submitted,

S. M. PARISH,
A. R. SLAUGHTER,
ELIAS ROSE,
Committee.

Bro. Exum Lewis, from the Committee on the Grand Secretary's Books and Report, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

We have examined the books and report of the Grand Secretary, and find them correct.

The Committee would respectfully recommend that so much of his report as relates to the exclusion of members for non-payment of dues, be referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Respectfully submitted,

EXUM LEWIS,
GEO. WILLIAMSON.
Committee.

Bro. George W. Blount, P. G. M., from the Committee on Jurisprudence, submitted the following report, which the Grand Lodge proceeded to the consideration of as the special order.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your Committee, to whom was referred the Memorial of St. John's Lodge, No. 1; Wilmington Lodge, No. 319, and Orient Lodge, No. 395, as well as the resolution of Bro. E. S. Martin, beg leave to submit the following: That Section 12, Article XIII, of the Code, be amended as follows:

SECTION 12. (1). No member of a Lodge shall be excluded from membership for non-payment of dues until he shall have been notified by a legal summons to appear and show cause for such delinquency.

(2). A failure to respond to said notification shall subject the offender to the pains and penalties prescribed for a violation of a legal summons.

(3). All laws and clauses of laws of this Grand Lodge, in conflict with this amendment, are hereby repealed.

Your committee recommend to the Lodges that members who have heretofore been excluded for non-payment of dues, be reinstated to membership upon the payment of such dues and on such terms as the Lodge may determine.

Your committee further recommend that Masons of extinct Lodges, who were excluded for non-payment of dues, be admitted to membership upon petition and ballot, as in other cases of petition for membership, accompanied by a certificate of the Grand Secretary of their status in Lodges, as shall appear from the records in the custody of the Grand Secretary.

Your committee approves the decisions of the Grand Master as being strictly conformable to Masonic law.

G. W. BLOUNT,
EUGENE GRISSOM,
J. I. MACKS,
W. R. KENAN,
Committee.

The report was read, discussed and adopted.

The following reports were submitted as follows, and adopted:

By Bro. E. S. Martin, Committee on the Orphan Asylum:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

The Committee on the Orphan Asylum, to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's Address relating to the Orphan Asylum, is most excellent in matter and form, and commends itself to the careful consideration of this Grand Lodge. The committee especially endorses that part which suggests that "it should be made the order of the Grand Lodge that it should meet at the Asylum on St. John's day in June, annually."

E. S. MARTIN,
Chairman, for Committee.

By Bro. E. F. Lamb, from Committee No. 2, on Suspensions and Expulsions:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your Committee No. 2, on Suspensions and Expulsions, report as follows:

Mingo Lodge, No. 206, *vs.* Joseph R. Westbrook. Charge: Disobeying legal summons. Sentence: expulsion. That the transcript be remanded back to Lodge for defect in record.

Palmyra Lodge, No. 147, *vs.* Jere Jones. Charge: Disobeying legal summons. Sentence: indefinite suspension. Affirmed.

Lily Valley Lodge, No. 252, *vs.* Erastus Bagley. Charge: Brutal treatment of wife. Sentence: expulsion. Affirmed.

Palmyra Lodge, No. 147, *vs.* D. G. Godwin. Charge: Disobeying legal summons. Sentence: indefinite suspension. Affirmed.

Wm. G. Hill Lodge, No. 218, *vs.* Frank Gruendler. Charge: Desertion of wife and children. Sentence: expulsion. Affirmed.

Respectfully submitted,

A. H. A. WILLIAMS,

E. F. LAMB,

A. J. ELLINGTON,

Committee.

In the case of Joseph R. Westbrook, from Mingo Lodge, No. 206, stated in foregoing report, the recommendation of the committee was not adopted, and the action of the Lodge was affirmed.

Bro. R. A. Draughon, from the Committee on Unfinished Business, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina:

Your Committee on Unfinished Business find on pages 41 and 42 of the proceedings of the last Annual Communication, the report of a special committee concerning a claim of M. W., Bro. Lewis S. Williams, against the former St. John's College, which was postponed until this Annual Communication.

The report and the claim were referred to the Most Worshipful Grand Master and other brethren of Oxford.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT A. DRAUGHON,

M. L. WINSTON,

Committee.

The Grand Master presented an affidavit of Bro. L. S. Williams, concerning the claim set forth in the foregoing report.

On motion of Bro. E. S. Martin, the Grand Treasurer was instructed to pay Bro. L. S. Williams one hundred dollars, in full satisfaction of the note.

Bro. S. H. Rountree, Grand Lecturer, presented a report, which was read and ordered to be filed.

Reports of committees were presented as follows, and adopted.

By Bro. H. H. Munson, P. G. M., through the Grand Master, from the Committee on Jurisprudence of the past year :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence beg leave to report that no matters of any general interest to the Craft at large have been brought before them for adjudication—only change of time for holding regular Communications.

Fraternally submitted,

H. H. MUNSON, *Chairman.*

By Bro. Bernice Walker, from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances. Report not published under regulation of Grand Lodge.

By Bro. John W. Thompson, from the Committee on Accounts and Claims :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your Committee on Accounts and Claims, to whom were referred the books and vouchers of William E. Anderson, Grand Treasurer, respectfully report that they have carefully examined the same and find them correct. The books and accounts have been kept with exactness and accuracy.

This committee have carefully considered that part of the Grand Treasurer's report relative to revenues and expenditures, but do not feel called upon to make any recommendations in view of the prospective increase of receipts.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. THOMPSON,
J. B. REDFORD,
NEILL S. STEWART,

Committee.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until this evening at 8 o'clock.

SECOND DAY—EVENING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, January 11th, 1888.

THE Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 8 o'clock, the Grand Master presiding.

The proceedings of this afternoon's session were read and approved.

An invitation to the Grand Lodge, from Mr. J. B. Burwell, to visit Peace Institute to-morrow afternoon between the hours of 4½ and 5½ o'clock, was received and accepted with the thanks of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. J. I. Macks, brethren present from Lodges U. D., to which charters had been granted at this Annual Communication, were received as the representatives of their respective Lodges.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, Bros. J. I. Macks, A. H. A. Williams, and John W. Thompson, acting as tellers.

The following were elected :

CHARLES H. ROBINSON	<i>Grand Master.</i>
SAMUEL H. SMITH	<i>Deputy Grand Master.</i>
HEZEKIAH A. GUDGER	<i>Senior Grand Warden.</i>
JOHN W. COTTEN	<i>Junior Grand Warden.</i>
WILLIAM E. ANDERSON	<i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
DONALD W. BAIN	<i>Grand Secretary.</i>

The term of Bro. Thomas A. Green, as director of the Orphan Asylum, having expired, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of a director for a term of five years. Bro. Thomas A. Green was elected.

On motion of Bro. J. I. Macks, the hour of 11 o'clock A. M., to-morrow, was set apart for the installation of Grand Officers, and Bro. George W. Blount, P. G. M., was invited to perform the services.

Brethren in attendance, holding commissions as representatives of sister Grand Lodges, were accorded a fraternal welcome, as follows :

ALABAMA,	DONALD W. BAIN.
ARKANSAS	FABIUS H. BUSBEE.
CANADA	GEORGE W. BLOUNT.
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	CHARLES H. ROBINSON.
GEORGIA	DONALD W. BAIN.
IOWA	CHARLES H. ROBINSON.
KANSAS	EUGENE S. MARTIN.
KENTUCKY	DONALD W. BAIN.
MARYLAND	HENRY M. COWAN.
MINNESOTA	EUGENE GRISSOM.
NEW JERSEY	DONALD W. BAIN.
NOVA SCOTIA	THOMAS S. KENAN.
OHIO	ALBERT M. NOBLE.
OREGON	JOHN W. COTTEN.
TENNESSEE	DONALD W. BAIN.
TEXAS	DONALD W. BAIN.
VERMONT	SAMUEL NORTHROP.
VIRGINIA	WILLIAM E. ANDERSON.

Bro. Wright G. Campbell, from the Committee on Fraternal Dead, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Since our last Annual Communication a number of Craftsmen have been called from labor to refreshment. Fitting mention has been made of several in the address of the Grand Master; of many others we know only that they were ours by a tie subtler than friendship, stronger than death. The record of their virtues may not be spread upon the pages of our Grand Lodge's history, but the world is the better, and humanity the happier, for their having wrought their little hour under the wholesome instruction of Masonry.

We recommend that a page in the printed proceedings be set apart to the memory of Junior Grand Deacon W. N. Benton.

W. G. CAMPBELL.

W. P. WILLIAMS,

ALFRED H. STUBBS,

Committee.

The work in the Master's Degree was exemplified by

Bros. W. P. Williams, Bernice Walker, Dudley Peed, W. P. Oldham, A. J. Blair and Samuel Northrop.

The Grand Lodge tendered thanks to Bro. W. P. Williams for his services in presiding over the exemplification of the work.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

THIRD DAY.

THURSDAY, January 12th, 1888.

THE Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor at 10 o'clock, R. W., Samuel H. Smith, Deputy Grand Master, presiding.

The proceedings of last evening's session were read and approved.

Bro. Bernice Walker, from the Committee on Appeals, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

The Committee on Appeals, to whom was referred the appeal of Bro. J. D. Hunt, of Trap Hill Lodge, No. 346, ask leave to report that they have carefully examined the record and accompanying papers sent up with said appeal, and find that the judgment of said Lodge should not be sustained, but that the case should be remanded, to the end that said Brother Hunt have a new trial; that the record fails to state in what degree the Lodge was opened when the charges were brought and when the Special Communication at which the trial was had was held.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN W. HAYS,
C. E. PARRISH,
B. WALKER,
Committee.

Bro. Eugene Grissom, P. D. G. M., introduced the following resolution, which, after a few remarks of a pathetic character by Bro. Grissom, was adopted unanimously by a rising vote :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge has heard with feelings of sorrow of the illness of our esteemed and beloved brother, Past Grand Master Alfred Martin, of Wilmington, N. C., whose life has been a conspicuous illustration of the moral virtues taught by Masonry, and a bright example of the character of our profession, therefore,

Resolved, That this Grand Body tender to our venerable brother the renewed expression of our love and confidence and our sympathies in the hour of his afflictions and sufferings.

Bro. D. M. Stott, Grand Lecturer, submitted a report, which was read and ordered to be filed.

The amendment to Article VII, of the Code, introduced by Bro. D. W. Bain on yesterday, to strike out the words "date of charter," was adopted.

Bro. E. S. Martin, from the Committee on the Orphan Asylum, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

The Committee on the Orphan Asylum, to whom was referred the report of the Superintendent, have examined the same, and recommend that it be received and the recommendation in regard to the wagon, mule, etc., therein contained, be adopted.

They further recommend that the Superintendent have printed 5,000 copies of the report for general distribution to the Lodges and people of the State, and they further recommend that an appropriation of \$2,000 be made for the support of the Orphan Asylum for the year 1888.

Fraternally submitted,

E. S. MARTIN,
Chairman, for Committee.

Bro. J. A. Leach, from Committee No. 1, on Suspensions and Expulsions, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Your Committee No. 1, on Suspensions and Expulsions, to whom were referred the following cases, beg leave to report that we have carefully examined all the

papers in each case, and recommend that the judgments of the Subordinate Lodges be affirmed, to-wit:

Cape Fear Lodge, No. 394, *vs.* William Hatcher; sentence, indefinite suspension.

Blackmer Lodge, No. 170, *vs.* Jacob R. Roberts; sentence, expulsion.

Lebanon Lodge, No. 207, *vs.* W. W. Merritt; sentence, suspension for six months.

Blackmer Lodge, No. 170, *vs.* Young A. Sprouse; sentence, expulsion.

Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 143, *vs.* Jasper G. Glosson; sentence, expulsion.

Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 143, *vs.* J. J. Hooker; sentence, suspension for twelve months.

Dellaplane Lodge, No. 355, *vs.* J. W. Gross; sentence, expulsion.

Fraternally submitted,

JAS. A. LEACH,
W. P. OLDHAM,
W. P. WILLIAMS,

Committee.

Bro. W. B. Reid was added to Committee No. 3, on Work, Proceedings and Returns of Subordinate Lodges.

The hour of 11 o'clock having arrived, the installation of Grand Officers was announced as the special order.

The Grand Master elect made his appointments.

The Grand Officers were installed by M. W. George W. Blount, Past Grand Master, assisted by Bro. E. S. Martin, acting Grand Marshal, as follows:

ELECTED OFFICERS:

CHARLES H. ROBINSON *Grand Master.*
SAMUEL H. SMITH *Deputy Grand Master.*
HEZEKIAH A. GUDGER *Senior Grand Warden.*
JOHN W. COTTEN *Junior Grand Warden.*
WILLIAM E. ANDERSON *Grand Treasurer.*
DONALD W. BAIN *Grand Secretary.*

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

WRIGHT G. CAMPBELL *Grand Chaplain.*
ALPHEUS W. WOOD *Senior Grand Deacon.*
SAMUEL NORTHROP *Junior Grand Deacon.*

FRANCIS M. MOYE	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
ALBERT B. DAUGHTREY	<i>Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
CHARLES F. GILBERT	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
ARA O. EDSON	<i>Grand Steward.</i>
JOHN W. THOMPSON	<i>Grand Steward.</i>
ROBERT H. BRADLEY	<i>Grand Tiler.</i>

On motion of Bro. Wright G. Campbell, the Grand Secretary was directed to have eleven hundred copies of the Uniform Code of By-Laws and Amendments to the General Code printed in pamphlet form, and transmit three of the same to each of the Lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction.

Committee No. 3, on Returns, etc., of Lodges, submitted the following report, which was read and adopted :

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

Committee No. 3, on Returns, beg leave to report :

We have examined the returns of the following Lodges and find them correct :

Wilmington, No. 319 ; Selma, No. 320 ; White Hill, No. 321 ; Granite, No. 322 ; Mattamuskeet, No. 328 ; Black Creek, No. 330 ; Bayboro, No. 331 ; Ionic, No. 337 ; Fair View, No. 339 ; Harmony, No. 340 ; Rock Spring No. 341 ; Hickory, No. 343 ; N. F. Reid, No. 344 ; Trap Hill, No. 346 ; Mount Mourn, No. 347 ; Stanly, No. 348 ; Durham, No. 352 ; Moravian, No. 353 ; Double Shoal, No. 356 ; Bakersville, No. 357 ; East La Porte, No. 358 ; Mt. Vernon, No. 359 ; Mayon, No. 360 ; Snow, No. 363 ; Mt. Pisgah, No. 368 ; Olive Branch, No. 371 ; Elk, No. 373 ; Campbell, No. 374 ; State Line, No. 375 ; Youngsville, No. 377 ; Seaboard, No. 378 ; Granville, No. 380 ; Forest City, No. 381 ; Shawnee, No. 382 ; Statesville, No. 383 ; Reidsville, No. 384 ; Scottville, No. 385 ; Pigeon River, No. 386 ; Kedron, No. 387 ; Mooresboro, No. 388 ; Temperance, No. 389 ; Lebanon, No. 391 ; White Rock, No. 392 ; Cape Fear, No. 394 ; Orient, No. 395 ; Oxford, No. 396 ; Centre, No. 398 ; Conoho, No. 399 ; Joppa, No. 401 ; Dobson, No. 402 ; Siler City, No. 403 ; Farmer's, No. 404 ; Ocean, No. 405 ; Ivy, No. 406.

Dellaplane, No. 355, have no seal.

Tally Ho, No. 393, has no date of charter, Lodge seal or signature of Secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

S. I. SUTTON,

W. B. REID,

Committee.

Bro. S. H. Smith, D. G. M., introduced the following resolution, which was read and unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to various transportation companies for courtesies extended.

Standing committees were announced, as follows :

On Jurisprudence :

Bros. H. H. Munson, P. G. M., J. I. Macks, W. R. Kenan, Eugene Gissom, P. D. G. M., George W. Blount, P. G. M.

On Suspensions and Expulsions :

No. 1. Bros. J. A. Leach, A. H. A. Williams and A. J. Ellington.

No. 2. Bros. Bernice Walker, D. M. Stott and E. F. Lamb.

On Foreign Correspondence :

Bros. D. W. Bain and E. S. Martin.

On Propositions and Grievances :

Bros. Thomas S. Kenan, P. D. G. M., A. H. Stubbs and W. B. Reid.

On Orphan Asylum :

Bros. E. S. Martin, R. T. Stephenson, M. L. Winston, G. Rosenthal and J. W. Cortland.

On Printing :

Bros. W. E. Anderson, D. W. Bain and John W. Thompson.

On Credentials :

Bros. S. H. Rountree, P. J. G. W., F. H. Glover and Abraham Ryttenberg.

Bro. D. W. Bain, G. S., introduced the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Body be expressed to the Grand Master, M. W., Charles H. Robinson, for the very satisfactory manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this Annual Communication.

On motion of Bro. M. L. Winston, the Grand Lecturers were requested to meet the Grand Master in Oxford on the 20th day of June next, to exemplify the work, and a special

Communication of the Grand Lodge was ordered to be held at the Orphan Asylum, on Thursday the 21st day of June.

The Grand Lodge having concluded its labors, the proceedings of this day's session were read and approved.

The Grand Master addressed the Grand Lodge and closed this Annual Communication at 12 o'clock M. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

CHARLES H. ROBINSON,

ATTEST:

Grand Master.

DONALD W. BAIN, *Grand Secretary.*

LODGES

UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND
LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	POST-OFFICE.	COUNTY.
St. John's.....	1	Wilmington	New Hanover.
Royal White Hart	2	Halifax	Halifax.
St. John's.....	3	New Berne.....	Craven.
Charity	5	Windsor	Bertie.
Unanimity	7	Edenton	Chowan.
Phoenix	8	Fayetteville	Cumberland.
American George.....	17	Murfreesboro	Hertford.
Phalanx	31	Charlotte	Mecklenburg.
Stokes	32	Concord	Cabarrus.
Davie	39	Roxobel	Bertie.
Hiram	40	Raleigh	Wake.
Hall	53	Indian Town	Currituck.
King Solomon.....	56	Jackson	Northampton.
Concord	58	Tarboro	Edgecombe.
Kilwinning	64	Wadesboro	Anson.
Eagle	71	Hillsboro	Orange.
Golden Fleece.....	74	Milton	Caswell.
Widow's Son	75	Camden C. H	Camden.
Greensboro	76	Greensboro	Guilford.
Zion	81	Trenton	Jones.
LaFayette	83	Jacksonville	Onslow.
Fellowship	84	Smithfield	Johnston.
Morning Star	85	Nashville	Nash.
Skewarkey	90	Williamston	Martin.
Western Star	91	Rutherfordton	Rutherford.
Joseph Warren	92	Moyton	Wilson.
Jerusalem	95	Hookerton	Greene.
St. John's.....	96	Kinston	Lenoir.
Wake Forest	97	Neuse	Wake
Hiram	98	Clinton	Sampson.
Fulton	99	Salisbury	Rowan.
Orr	104	Washington	Beaufort.
Perquimans	106	Hertford	Perquimans.
Clinton	107	Yanceyville	Caswell.
Belmont	108	Faison	Duplin.
Franklin	109	Beaufort	Carteret.

LODGES—*Continued.*

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	POST-OFFICE.	COUNTY.
Wayne	112	Goldsboro	Wayne.
Holly Spring	115	Holly Spring	Wake.
Mount Lebanon	117	Wilson	Wilson.
Mount Hermon	118	Asheville	Buncombe.
Franklinton	123	Franklinton	Franklin.
Mill Creek	125	Newton Grove	Sampson.
Blackmer	127	Mount Gilead	Montgomery.
Hanks	128	Franklinsville	Randolph.
Mocksville	134	Mocksville	Davie.
King Solomon	138	Burgaw	Pender.
Mount Energy	140	Mount Energy	Granville.
Carolina	141	Ansonville	Anson.
Mount Vernon	143	Ore Hill	Chatham.
Junaluskee	145	Franklin	Macon.
Palmyra	147	Averasboro	Harnett.
Adoniram	149	Young's X Roads	Granville.
Chalmers	151	Carbonton	Moore.
Scotch Ireland	154	Cleveland	Rowan.
White Stone	155	Wakefield	Wake.
Rolesville	156	Rolesville	Wake.
Mount Pleasant	157	Rogers' Store	Wake.
Knap of Reeds	158	Knap of Reeds	Granville.
Rock Rest	161	Hadley's Mills	Chatham.
Yadkin	162	Yadkinville	Yadkin.
Deep River	164	Foust's Mills	Randolph.
Archer	165	Archer Lodge	Johnston.
Winston	167	Winston	Forsyth.
Blackmer	170	Weaverville	Buncombe.
Buffalo	172	Jonesboro	Moore.
George Washington	174	Elm Grove	Chatham.
Pollokville	175	Pollokville	Jones
Mecklenburg	176	Davidson College	Mecklenburg.
Siloam	178	Harrell's Store	Sampson.
Sandy Creek	185	Laurel	Franklin.
Pine Forest	186	Swann's Station (Moore)	Harnett.
Central Cross	187	Hunt's	Nash.
Fair Bluff	190	Fair Bluff	Columbus.
Granite	191	Clayton	Johnston.
Burnsville	192	Burnsville	Yancey.
Cary	198	Cary	Wake.
Eagle Rock	201	Eagle Rock	Wake.
Cleveland	202	Shelby	Cleveland.
Roanoke	203	Weldon	Halifax.
Berea	204	Oxford	Granville.
Mingo	206	Bass	Sampson.
Lebanon	207	Whiteville	Columbus.
Richland	214	Thomasville	Davidson.
William G. Hill	218	Raleigh	Wake.
Webster	222	Elevation	Johnston.
Wilson	226	Olin	Iredell.
Jonesville	227	Elkin (Surry)	Yadkin.

LODGES—Continued.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	POST-OFFICE.	COUNTY.
McCormick	228	Broadway	Moore.
Corinthian	230	Rocky Mount	Nash.
William T. Bain	231	Banks	Wake.
Gunter	232	Haywood	Chatham.
Lenoir	233	LaGrange	Lenoir.
Anchor	234	Auburn	Wake.
Cokesbury	235	May	Harnett.
Mystic Tie	237	Marion	McDowell.
Atlantic	238	Currituck C. H.	Currituck.
Rountree	243	Bell's Ferry (Pitt) ..	Lenoir.
Monroe	244	Monroe	Union.
Pythagoras	249	Southport	Brunswick.
Rockford	251	Rockford	Surry.
Lily Valley	252	Sunbury	Gates.
Lee	253	Taylorsville	Alexander.
Beulah	257	Beulah	Johnston.
Harnett	258	Winslow	Harnett.
Waynesville	259	Waynesville	Haywood.
Excelsior	261	Charlotte	Mecklenburg.
Hibriten	262	Lenoir	Caldwell.
Farmington	265	Farmington	Davie.
Durbin	266	Blockersville	Cumberland.
Dunn's Rock	267	Brevard	Transylvania.
East Bend	269	East Bend	Yadkin.
Tabasco	271	Gibsonville	Guilford.
Watauga	273	Boone	Watauga.
Beaver Dam	276	Beaver Dam	Union.
Green Level	277	Green Level	Wake.
Colesville (Stokes Co.) ..	278	Stuart	Patrick Co., Va.
Rehoboth	279	Teachy's	Duplin.
Sapona	280	Tysor's Mills	Chatham.
Eureka	283	China Grove	Rowan.
Greenville	284	Greenville	Pitt.
Flat Creek	285	Fall Creek	Chatham.
Castalia	286	Castalia	Nash.
Salem	289	Salem	Forsyth.
French Broad	292	Marshall	Madison.
Vance	293	Democrat	Buncombe.
Atlantic	294	Swan Quarter	Hyde.
Stonewall	296	Robersonville	Martin.
Edgecombe	298	Toisnot	Wilson.
Hunting Creek	299	Eagle Mills	Iredell.
Pamlico	300	Aurora	Beaufort.
Clay	301	Hayesville	Clay.
*Evergreen	303	Swann's Station (Moore) ..	Harnett.
*Pleasant Hill	304	Kinston (Lenoir)	Jones.
Laurinburg	305	Laurinburg	Richmond.
Galatia	306	Fayetteville	Cumberland.
Patterson	307	Mount Pleasant	Cabarrus.
Randolph	309	Ophir	Randolph.
Hatcher	310	Wilson	Wilson.
Notla	312	England's Point	Cherokee.

LODGES—*Continued.*

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	POST-OFFICE.	COUNTY.
King Solomon	313	Lumber Bridge	Robeson.
New Lebanon	314	South Mills	Camden.
Jerusalem	315	Jerusalem	Davie.
Eureka	317	Elizabeth City	Pasquotank.
Wilmington	319	Wilmington	New Hanover.
Selma	320	Selma	Johnston.
White Hill	321	Greenwood	Moore.
Granite	322	Mount Airy	Surry.
Winton	327	Winton	Hertford.
Mattamuskeet	328	Lake Landing	Hyde.
Fayetteville	329	Fayetteville	Cumberland.
Black Creek	330	Black Creek	Wilson.
Bayboro	331	Bayboro	Pamlico.
Lock's Creek	333	Fayetteville	Cumberland.
Ashpole	335	Plainview	Robeson.
Ionic	337	Kittrell	Vance.
Palmyra	338	Palmyra	Halifax.
Fair View	339	King's Mountain	Cleveland.
Harmony	340	Pikeville	Wayne.
Rock Spring	341	Denver	Lincoln.
Cedar Fork	342	Morrisville	Wake.
Hickory	343	Hickory	Catawba.
Numa F. Reid	344	High Point	Guilford.
Trap Hill	346	Trap Hill	Wilkes.
Mount Mourne	347	Mount Mourne	Iredell.
Stanly	348	Albemarle	Stanly.
Durham	352	Durham	Durham.
Moravian	353	Moravian Falls	Wilkes.
Dellaplane	355	Dellaplane	Wilkes.
Double Shoal	356	Cleveland Mills	Cleveland.
Bakersville	357	Bakersville	Mitchell.
East La Porte	358	East La Porte	Jackson.
Mount Vernon	359	Stonewall	Pamlico.
Mayon	360	Ammon	Bladen.
Iredell	362	Mooreville	Iredell.
Snow	363	Sugar Grove	Watauga.
Cumberland	364	Gray's Creek	Cumberland.
Craighead	366	Huntersville	Mecklenburg.
Mount Pisgah	368	Williams' Mill	Chatham.
Air-Line	369	Gastonia	Gaston.
Mars Hill	370	Mars Hill	Madison.
Olive Branch	371	Garner	Wake.
*Elk	373	Elk Cross Roads (Ashe)	Watauga.
Campbell	374	Troutman's	Iredell.
State Line	375	Grover	Cleveland.
Youngsville	377	Youngsville	Franklin.
Seaboard	378	Seaboard	Northampton.
Coharie	379	Huntley	Sampson.
Granville	380	Grissom	Granville.
Forest City	381	Forest City	Rutherford.

LODGES—*Continued.*

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	POST-OFFICE.	COUNTY.
Shawnee	382	Edith	Catawba.
Statesville	383	Statesville	Iredell.
Reidsville	384	Reidsville	Rockingham.
Scottsville	385	Furches	Ashe.
Pigeon River	386	Pigeon River	Haywood.
Kedron	387	Hendersonville	Henderson.
Mooresboro	388	Mooresboro	Cleveland.
Temperance	389	Coxville	Pitt.
Copeland	390	Copeland	Surry.
Lebanon	391	Fayetteville	Cumberland,
White Rock	392	White Rock	Madison.
Tally Ho	393	Tally Ho	Granville.
Cape Fear	394	Little River Academy	Cumberland.
Orient	395	Wilmington	New Hanover.
Oxford	396	Oxford	Granville.
Bald Creek	397	Bald Creek	Yancey.
Centre	398	Flint Hill	Buncombe.
Conoho	399	Hamilton	Martin.
Newfound	400	Leicester	Buncombe.
Joppa	401	Old Fort	McDowell.
Dobson	402	Dobson	Surry.
Siler City	403	Siler City	Chatham.
Farmer's	404	Farmer's	Randolph,
Ocean	405	Morehead	Carteret.
Ivy	406	Paint Fork	Madison.
Liberty Grove	407	Dockery	Wilkes.
University	408	Chapel Hill	Orange.
Bula	409	Burlington	Alamance.
Asheville	410	Asheville	Buncombe.

*The names in parenthesis indicate the county in which the post-office of the Lodge is located.

STATEMENT

OF THE TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS OF LODGES IN THIS JURISDICTION.

The asterisk (*) before certain Lodges indicates that the dates of regular Communications are taken from last returns received previous to the year 1887.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS.
St. John's.....	1	Second Tuesday in each month.
St. John's.....	3	Second Wednesday evening.
Charity.....	5	First Monday, June 24, December 27.
Unanimity.....	7	First Tuesday evening, June 24, December 27.
Phoenix.....	8	First and third Friday evenings, June 24, Dec. 27.
American George....	17	First Thursday afternoon.
Phalanx.....	31	Second and fourth Monday.
Stokes.....	32	Monday night on or before full moon, June 24, December 27.
Davie.....	39	Friday before third Sunday, June 24, Dec. 27.
Hiram.....	40	Third Monday evening, December 27.
Hall.....	53	First Saturday, at 11 o'clock A. M.
King Solomon.....	56	First Saturday.
Concord.....	58	First and third Friday evening.
Kilwinning.....	64	First Monday night, June 24, December 27.
Eagle.....	71	First Friday evening.
Golden Fleece....	74	First Saturday.
Widow's Son.....	75	Third Saturday, at 10 o'clock A. M.
Greensboro.....	76	Second and fourth Friday.
Zion.....	81	Third Saturday.
LaFayette.....	83	Saturday before the first Monday.
Fellowship.....	84	Second Saturday, Tuesday evening of Courts.
Morning Star.....	85	Fourth Saturday, at 11 o'clock A. M.
Skewarkey.....	90	Second and fourth Tuesday evenings.
Western Star.....	91	Friday evening on or before full moon, June 24, December 27.
Joseph Warren.....	92	First Thursday, at 11 A. M., and third Monday at 7½ P. M.
Jerusalem.....	95	Second Saturday.
St. John's.....	96	Second Wednesday, June 24, December 27.
Wake Forest.....	97	Saturday before second Sunday.
Hiram.....	98	Third Friday.
Fulton.....	99	First and third Friday evenings.
Orr.....	104	First and third Tuesday evenings.
*Perquimans.....	106	First Friday evening.
Clinton.....	107	Second Saturday, June 24, December 27.
Belmont.....	108	First Saturday.
Franklin.....	109	First Monday evening.
Wayne.....	112	First and third Monday.
Holly Spring.....	115	Saturday before third Sunday, June 24, Dec. 27
Mount Lebanon.....	117	First and third Monday evenings.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS.
Mount Hermon	118	First Thursday evening.
Franklinton	123	Last Saturday, at 2 o'clock P. M., June 24.
Mill Creek	125	First Friday, at 10 o'clock A. M.
Blackmer	127	First Saturday, at 2 o'clock P. M.
Hanks	128	Third Saturday evening, June 24, December 27.
Mocksville	134	Third Friday evening, Tuesday of Court, June 24 December 27.
King Solomon	138	Second Saturday, at 10 o'clock A. M.
Mount Energy	140	First Saturday, June 24, December 27.
Carolina	141	Friday evening after full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Mount Vernon	143	Thursday before first Sunday, and Saturday before third Sunday.
Junaluskee	145	First and third Tuesday evenings.
Palmyra	147	Third Saturday, June 24, December 27.
Adoniram	149	Saturday evening before second Sunday.
Chalmers	151	Saturday before full moon, at 7 o'clock P. M.
Scotch Ireland	154	Friday before or on each full moon, June 24, De- cember 27.
White Stone	155	Fourth Saturday, at 11 A. M., June 24.
Rolesville	156	First Saturday, June 24, December 27.
Mount Pleasant	157	Saturday before first Sunday, at 2 o'clock P. M.
Knap of Reeds	158	Saturday before fourth Sunday, at 2 o'clock P. M., June 24, December 27, at 10 o'clock A. M.
*Rock Rest	161	Second Saturday, at 3 o'clock P. M., June 24, De- cember 27
*Yadkin	162	First Saturday night on or after full moon.
Deep River	164	Saturday evening previous to each full moon.
Archer	165	First Saturday.
Winston	167	Second Monday evening, June 24, December 27.
Blackmer	170	Saturday on or before each full moon, at 2 o'clock P. M., June 24, December 27.
Buffalo	172	Second Saturday evening.
George Washington ..	174	Saturday before first Sunday, December 27.
Pollocksville	175	Second Thursday, June 24, December 27.
Mecklenburg	176	Thursday on or before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
*Siloam	178	Thursday before fourth Sunday, June 24, Dec. 27.
Sandy Creek	185	First Saturday.
Pine Forest	186	First Saturday evening, June 24, December 27.
Central Cross	187	Second Saturday, December 27.
Fair Bluff	190	Second Saturday, at 1 o'clock P. M., December 27.
Granite	191	Third Saturday
Burnsville	192	Saturday on or before full moon, at 1 o'clock P. M.
Cary	198	Saturday afternoon before second Sunday.
Eagle Rock	201	Third Saturday.
Cleveland	202	Friday evening before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Roanoke	203	First Thursday, at 8 o'clock P. M.
Berea	204	Saturday before second Sunday, June 24, Decem- ber 27, at 2 o'clock P. M.
*Mingo	206	First Saturday, June 24, December 27.
Lebanon	207	Saturday, at 1 P. M., on or before full moon, June 24, December 27.
Richland	214	Saturday ev'ng before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
William G. Hill	218	Second and fourth Monday evenings.
*Webster	222	Fourth Saturday, at 10 o'clock A. M.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS.
Wilson	226	Saturday before full moon, at 2 o'clock P. M., June 24, December 27.
Jonesville	227	Saturday evening on or before full moon, June 24, December 27.
McCormick	228	Third Saturday, at 2 o'clock P. M.
Corinthian	230	First Thursday evening.
William T. Bain	231	Saturday before third Sunday, June 24, Dec. 27.
*Gunter	232	Saturday before fourth Sunday.
Lenoir	233	First Thursday, at 2 o'clock P. M.
Anchor	234	Saturday before second Sunday.
Cokesbury	235	Saturday before first Sunday.
Mystic Tie	237	Friday evening before full moon, Tuesday of Court week, June 24, December 27.
Atlantic	238	Fourth Saturday, December 27.
Rountree	243	First Saturday, at 10 o'clock A. M.
*Monroe	244	First and third Friday evenings, June 24, Dec. 27.
Pythagoras	249	First Tuesday.
Rockford	251	Saturday evening before first Sunday.
Lily Valley	252	Fourth Saturday.
Lee	253	First Saturday, Tuesday of Court, June 24, Dec. 27.
Beulah	257	Saturday before fourth Sunday, June 24, Dec. 27.
Harnett	258	Friday before second Sunday, June 24, Dec. 27.
Waynesville	259	Friday evening on or before full moon.
Excelsior	261	Every Tuesday.
Farmington	265	Second Friday evening, June 24, December 27.
Durbin	266	Second Friday, at 11 o'clock A. M.
Dunn's Rock	267	Friday evening on or before full moon, June 24.
Tabasco	271	Second Saturday, June 24, December 27.
Watauga	273	Saturday afternoon before full moon, Monday evening of Court, June 24, December 27.
Beaver Dam	276	Saturday on or before full moon, June 24, December 27, at 2 o'clock P. M.
Green Level	277	Saturday before second Sunday.
Rehoboth	279	Saturday before fourth Sunday, June 24, Dec. 27.
Sapona	280	Fourth Saturday, at 2 o'clock P. M., June 24, December 27, at 2 o'clock P. M.
Eureka	283	First Saturday, at 1 o'clock P. M., June 24, Dec. 27.
Greenville	284	First Thursday, and first and third Monday evenings.
Flat Creek	285	Saturday before second Sunday, June 24, Dec. 27.
*Castalia	286	Third Saturday.
Salem	289	First Thursday evening, June 24, December 27.
French Broad	292	Friday on or before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Vance	293	Saturday on or before full moon, at 1 o'clock P. M.
Atlantic	294	Second Saturday, Tuesday evening of Court.
Stonewall	296	Saturday before third Sunday at 2 o'clock P. M.
Edgecombe	298	Second and fourth Saturday nights.
Hunting Creek	299	Saturday evening on or before full moon, at 2 o'clock P. M., June 24, Dec. 27.
Evergreen	303	Third Saturday.
Pleasant Hill	304	First Saturday, at 10 o'clock A. M.
Laurinburg	305	Thursday on or before full moon at 7 o'clock P. M.
Galatia	306	Saturday evening on or before full moon, June 24, December 27.
Patterson	307	Saturday evening on or before full moon.

NAMES OF LODGES.	No.	TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS.
Randolph	309	Saturday on or before full moon.
Hatcher	310	Third Saturday, June 24, December 27.
Notla	312	Third Saturday, at 10 o'clock A. M.
King Solomon	313	Saturday evening on or before full moon.
New Lebanon	314	First Friday.
Jerusalem	315	Friday ev'ng before first Sunday, June 24, Dec. 27.
Eureka	317	First and third Monday evenings.
Wilmington	319	Third Tuesday evening.
Selma	320	Friday evening, June 24, December 27.
White Hill	321	Third Saturday evening, June 24, December 27.
Granite	322	First and third Tuesdays.
*Winton	327	Saturday before fourth Sunday.
Mattamuskeet	328	Fourth Saturday, at 1 o'clock P. M.
Fayetteville	329	Second and fourth Friday evenings.
Black Creek	330	Second Saturday, June 24.
Bayboro	331	Fourth Saturday.
Lock's Creek	333	Fourth Saturday, June 24, December 27.
*Ashpole	335	Second Saturday.
Ionic	337	First Wednesday evening, June 24, Dec. 27.
Fairview	339	Saturday ev'ng before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Harmony	340	First Thursday.
Rock Spring	341	Saturday on or before full moon.
Cedar Fork	342	Saturday before second Sunday, at 10 o'clock A. M.
Hickory	343	Monday ev'ng before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Numa F. Reid	344	Monday evening on or before full moon.
Trap Hill	346	Saturday evening on or before full moon, June 24, December 27.
Mount Mourné	347	Saturday before second Sunday.
Stanly	348	First and third Saturday evenings.
Durham	352	Second and fourth Tuesday evenings, June 24, December 27.
Moravian	353	Friday evening on or before full moon.
Dellaplane	355	Saturday on or before full moon.
Double Shoal	356	Saturday evening on or before full moon.
Bakersville	357	Tuesday before full moon, Tuesday of Court, June 24, December 27.
East La Porte	358	Saturday on or before full moon.
Mt. Vernon	359	Second Saturday.
Mayon	360	Third Saturday.
*Iredell	362	Second Friday and fourth Saturday.
Snow	363	Second Saturday after full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
*Cumberland	364	Saturday evening on or before full moon.
Craighead	366	First Saturday, 2 P. M., Friday before second Sunday at 7 o'clock P. M.
Mount Pisgah	368	Saturday before fourth Sunday.
*Air-Line	369	Friday evening before full moon.
*Mars Hill	370	Saturday on or before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Olive Branch	371	Saturday before second Sunday.
Elk	373	Saturday after each full moon, at 10 o'clock A. M., June 24, December 27.
Campbell	374	First Saturday.
State Line	375	Saturday before full moon.
Youngsville	377	Saturday before first Sunday.
Seaboard	378	Thursday ev'ng before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Coharie	379	Saturday before fourth Sunday.
Granville	380	Fourth Saturday afternoon.

NAMES OF LODGES.	NO.	TIMES OF REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS.
Forest City.....	381	Tuesday evening on or before full moon.
Shawnee	382	Saturday on or before full moon, at 2 o'clock P. M.
Statesville	383	First and third Tuesday evenings.
Reidsville	384	Monday ev'ng before full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Scottsville	385	Friday on or before full moon.
Pigeon River	386	Thursday ev'ng after full moon, June 24, Dec. 27.
Kedron	387	Friday afternoon on or before full moon.
Mooresboro	388	Saturday evening on or before first full moon.
Temperance	389	Third Saturday.
Copeland	390	Saturday after full moon.
Lebanon	391	First and third Saturday evenings after full moon.
White Rock	392	Saturday on or before full moon, at 1 o'clock P. M.
Tally Ho	393	Saturday before second Sunday, June 24, Dec. 27.
Cape Fear	394	Fourth Saturday.
Orient	395	First and third Wednesday evenings.
Oxford	396	First Monday evening, June 24, Dec. 27.
*Bald Creek	397	First Saturday after full moon.
Centre	398	Saturday after each full moon, at 2 o'clock P. M.
Conoho	399	Thursday before first Sunday.
*Newfound	400	Saturday before full moon.
Joppa	401	Second and fourth Saturdays.
Dobson	402	First Monday evening.
Siler City	403	Saturday evening before second Sunday.
Farmers	404	"On or after each full moon in every month."
Ocean	405	Tuesday after first Monday.
Ivy	406	Saturday after each full moon at 2 o'clock P. M.
Liberty Grove	407	Saturday after each full moon.
University	408	Friday night on or before full moon.
Bula	409	Fourth Saturday evening.
Asheville	410	Third Thursday.

ABSTRACT of Returns from Subordinate Lodges for Masonic Year, ending October 31st, 1887.

NAMES OF LODGES.	No.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Reinstated.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Excluded for non-payment of dues.	Withdrawn.	Died.	Rejected.	Members.	Resident Masons not Members.	Whole Number.	Dues Paid.
St. John's	1	4	2	2	3	7				5	3	1	72	19	91	\$36 00
St. John's	3	1			1	1			1		1	2	53		5	26 50
Charity	5	3	3	3						1	4	3	67	2	69	32 50
Unanimity	7									1	1		18	20	38	9 00
Phoenix	8	3	2	1	1	2				1			43	25	68	21 50
American George	17				1					1	1		28	7	35	14 00
Phalanx	31	1	1	2	2	3					1		62		62	31 00
Stokes	32	5	5	6	6					2	1	1	27	9	36	13 50
David	39	5	5	5									40	1	41	20 00
Hiram	40	1	1	1	3	2				3	1		63	16	79	31 50
Hall	53									1	1		41	1	42	20 50
King Solomon	56	1	1						2		3		59		59	29 50
Concord	58			2	3	1							45		45	22 50
Kilwinning	64										1		27		27	13 50
Eagle	71	7	8	9	12							2	44	8	52	22 00
Golden Fleece	74	2	2	2									18	10	28	9 00
Widow's Son	75									2	3		28	4	32	14 00
Greensboro	76	8	6	7	5	1			12	7	1	1	60	53	113	30 00
Zion	81				1		1				2		33	3	36	15 50
LaFayette	83	5	4	4							1		31		31	16 00
Fellowship	84	2	2	2		1			1	2			38	10	48	19 00
Morning Star	85	4	4	4		2					1		30	17	47	15 00
Skewarkey	90	4	2	1								1	18		18	9 00

ABSTRACT—Continued.

NAMES OF LODGES.	No.	Initiated	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Reinstated.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Excluded for non-payment of dues.	Withdrawn.	Died.	Rejected.	Members.	Resident Masons not Members.	Whole Number.	Dues Paid.
Western Star	91	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	41	---	41	---
Joseph Warren	92	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	1	41	5	46	20 50
Jerusalem	95	2	3	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	3	---	30	4	34	15 00
St. John's	96	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	45	36	81	19 75
Wake Forest	97	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	22	---	22	11 00
Hiram	98	2	2	2	---	---	---	---	---	1	2	---	44	20	64	22 00
Fulton	99	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	6	---	---	---	31	21	52	30 00
Orr	104	1	---	---	1	2	---	---	---	1	1	1	29	33	62	14 50
Clinton	107	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	31	10	41	---
Belmont	108	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	27	---	27	13 50
Franklin	109	---	---	---	3	14	---	---	---	5	4	---	45	8	53	26 00
Wayne	112	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3	2	2	---	30	23	53	15 00
Holly Spring	115	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	1	1	---	23	---	23	12 00
Mt. Lebanon	117	1	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	5	1	---	47	9	50	23 50
Mt. Hermon	118	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	8	---	---	56	27	83	26 00
Franklin	123	1	---	---	1	---	---	---	2	3	---	---	19	---	33	9 50
Mill Creek	125	1	1	2	2	---	---	---	5	1	---	3	48	25	73	24 00
Blackmer	127	1	1	2	---	---	1	---	7	---	---	---	23	38	61	11 50
Hanks	128	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	20	31	51	10 00
Mockville	134	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	48	11	59	24 00
King Solomon	138	2	1	1	---	2	---	---	1	---	---	---	36	12	48	18 00
Mount Energy	140	6	6	6	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	38	5	43	19 00
Carolina	141	7	6	5	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	1	26	16	42	13 00

Mount Vernon	143	---	---	---	1	3	1	1	---	---	---	1	---	19	13	32	9 50
Junaluskee	145	3	3	3	---	---	---	---	7	---	---	---	---	49	7	56	24 50
Palmyra	147	---	---	---	2	---	2	---	---	1	---	---	1	30	27	57	15 00
Adoniram	149	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	18	12	30	20 50
Chalmers	151	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	17	12	29	8 50
Scotch Ireland	154	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	10	---	10	---
White Stone	155	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	1	1	---	---	---	30	6	36	15 00
Rolesville	156	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	18	---	18	9 00
Mount Pleasant	157	---	---	---	---	5	---	---	4	---	---	---	---	43	2	45	21 50
Knap of Reeds	158	1	1	1	---	3	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	18	21	39	9 00
Rock Rest	161	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Yadkin	162	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Deep River	164	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	5	2	1	---	---	31	15	46	15 50
Archer	165	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	23	---	23	11 50
Winston	167	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3	---	---	---	92	13	105	46 00
Blackmer	170	2	1	2	2	---	2	---	---	2	---	---	2	40	9	49	20 00
Buffalo	172	2	1	2	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	45	21	66	22 50
George Washington	174	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	9	---	---	---	---	30	19	49	19 50
Pollaksville	175	2	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	2	1	1	---	34	1	35	18 50
Mecklenburg	176	7	7	7	1	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	23	---	23	11 50
Sandy Creek	185	1	1	1	---	6	---	---	2	---	---	---	1	31	20	51	16 00
Pine Forest	186	3	---	---	---	1	6	---	---	4	1	---	---	21	10	31	10 50
Central Cross	187	2	2	2	2	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	37	18	55	18 50
Fair Bluff	190	1	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	26	9	35	13 00
Granite	191	4	4	3	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	23	6	29	11 50
Burnsville	192	6	3	3	1	8	2	---	9	2	1	3	---	40	14	60	23 00
Cary	198	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	27	1	28	13 50
Eagle Rock	201	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	15	---	15	---
Cleveland	202	3	2	2	---	---	---	---	3	3	---	2	---	81	8	89	40 50
Roanoke	203	1	2	2	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	20	3	23	10 00
Berea	204	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	27	20	47	5 00
Mingo	206	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	27	---	27	14 00
Lebanon	207	10	9	8	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	48	20	68	24 00
Richland	214	1	2	2	---	3	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	41	24	65	21 00
William G. Hill	218	1	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	86	---	86	88 00

ABSTRACT—Continued.

NAMES OF LODGES.	No.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Reinstated.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Excluded for non-payment of dues.	Withdrawn.	Died.	Rejected.	Members.	Resident Masons not Members.	Whole Number.	Dues Paid.
Webster	222									1		1	21	4	25	\$ 10 50
Wilson	226	7	6	8									31	11	42	15 50
Jonesville	227				5					2	1		20	35	55	10 00
McCormick	228	2	2	2	1								15	12	27	10 00
Corinthian	230	1	1	1	1						1		28	6	34	14 00
William T. Bain	231										1		18	1	19	9 00
Lenoir	233	1	1	1									30	9	39	15 00
Anchor	234												26		26	13 00
Cokesbury	235										1		16	10	26	
Mystic Tie	237	6	5	7		1			6	1	1		43	10	53	22 00
Atlantic	238	3	3	4		2				2		2	55	7	62	27 50
Rountree	243									5	2		36	9	45	18 00
Monroe	244															20 00
Pythagoras	249	3	3	3		1			1				18	12	30	9 00
Rockford	251												13	4	17	6 50
Holly Grove	252							1					36	16	52	18 00
Lee	253	3	1								1		55	12	67	27 50
Beulah	257	1	1	1	1								22	2	24	11 00
Harnett	258												13	5	18	6 50
Waynesville	259	4	6	2						2	1	3	42	16	58	53 50
Excelsior	261				1				2				20	9	29	10 00
Farmington	265								2	2			39	4	43	19 00
Durbin	266	2	2	3									17		17	8 50

Dunn's Rock	267	2	2	2	I	2				3				48	4	52	24 00
Tabasco	271									5	7			21	9	30	10 50
Watauga	273	I	I	3						I				55	I	56	27 50
Beaver Dam	276													28		28	14 00
Green Level	277	I	I											23		23	11 50
Rehoboth	279	2	3	3						I				17	I2	29	8 50
Sapona	280													16	6	22	8 00
Eureka	283	2	I	I						2	2			28	3	31	14 00
Greenville	284	2	2	2						2				45		45	22 50
Flat Creek	285	2	I	I	7									18	8	26	9 00
Salem	289													36	3	39	18 00
French Broad	292	5	7	7						I	I	6		87		87	43 50
Vance	293	4	5	2							4	I		62		62	29 00
Atlantic	294													42	3	45	42 50
Stonewall	296	8	8	8	I							I	I	47	I1	58	23 50
Edgecombe	298	5	5	5	2					I	2	I		22	2	24	11 00
Hunting Creek	299										3			44	5	49	
Evergreen	303				I									19	2	21	9 50
Pleasant Hill	304				I									21		21	10 50
Laurinburg	305										I			27		27	13 50
Galatia	306	2	2	2								I		20	2	22	10 00
Patterson	307	4	3	2								I		28		28	14 00
Randolph	309	I									12	2	2	39	I2	51	19 50
Hatcher	310										3			26	2	28	13 00
Notla	312				I	2					I	I	5	59	3	62	29 50
King Solomon	313	4	4	4	2							3		45	I2	57	22 50
New Lebanon	314				2						2			33	2	35	16 50
Jerusalem	315		I											19		19	
Eureka	317	2	I		I	2	I			2	I	I	2	52	22	74	53 00
Wilmington	319	2	I	3	2							I		44		44	22 00
Selma	320										I	I	I	24	3	27	12 00
White Hill	321				I						I			17	21	38	8 00
Granite	322	3	6	6	I							I	I	33	I8	51	16 50
Winton	327													9	5	9	50
Mattamuskeet	328											3	I	28	2	30	14 00

ABSTRACT—Continued.

NAMES OF LODGES.	No.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Admitted.	Reinstated.	Suspended.	Expelled.	Excluded for non-payment of dues.	Withdrawn.	Died.	Rejected.	Members.	Resident Masons not Members.	Whole Number.	Dues Paid.
Fayetteville.....	329	1	---	1	---	---	---	---	9	3	---	---	15	8	23	7 50
Black Creek.....	330	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	20	2	22	9 50
Bayboro.....	331	2	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	38	3	41	19 00
Lock's Creek.....	333	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	19	3	22	---
Ionic.....	337	1	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	20	5	25	10 00
Fairview.....	339	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	18	2	20	9 00
Harmony.....	340	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	2	1	1	---	21	16	37	10 50
Rock Spring.....	341	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	35	---	35	17 00
Hickory.....	343	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	3	1	---	---	21	5	26	10 50
Numa F. Reid.....	344	1	1	1	3	---	---	---	---	1	---	2	50	11	61	24 50
Trap Hill.....	346	5	6	6	1	2	1	---	2	3	1	1	42	8	50	21 00
Mount Mourne.....	347	1	1	1	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	25	2	27	12 50
Stanly.....	348	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	19	---	---	---	26	22	48	13 00
Durham.....	352	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	43	---	43	11 50
Moravian.....	353	3	3	2	1	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	26	8	34	13 00
Dellaplane.....	355	---	---	1	2	---	---	1	---	7	1	---	25	2	27	12 50
Double Shoal.....	356	1	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	38	2	40	---
Bakersville.....	357	11	11	9	1	---	---	---	---	1	3	4	76	---	76	38 00
East La Porte.....	358	4	3	5	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	36	12	48	18 00
Mt. Vernon.....	359	1	2	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	20	2	22	10 00
Mayon.....	360	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	10	2	---	1	29	10	39	15 00
Snow.....	363	2	4	4	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1	67	1	68	33 50
Craighead.....	366	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	7	---	1	---	22	4	26	11 00

[illegible]

RECAPITULATION.

AGGREGATE OF LODGES.

Number of Lodges represented at Annual Communication, 1888.....	99
“ “ making returns for the year 1887.....	197
“ “ from which returns were not received.....	17
“ “ at work.....	214

STATISTICS OBTAINED FROM RETURNS FOR MASONIC YEAR 1887, OF CHARTERED LODGES AND LODGES U. D.

Initiated.....	349
Passed	321
Raised	325
Admitted in chartered Lodges.....	142
Re-instated	92
Suspended	11
Expelled	10
Excluded for non-payment of dues.....	176
Withdrawn	170
Died	111
Rejected	88

AGGREGATE OF MASONS.

Number of Members returned.....	6,267
“ Resident Masons not Members returned	1,589
Whole number returned.....	7,856
Add members (398), and non-affiliated Masons (67), obtained from last returns of Lodges failing to make returns in 1887.....	465
	8,321

The estimate of non-affiliated Masons not returned is discontinued, and the Grand Secretary reports only the number contained in returns last received.

In the number of Lodges reported as at work, none of the dormant Lodges now in process of reorganization are included.

The net loss since 1886 is due to the fact that some charters have been declared forfeited since the last Annual Communication.

FRATERNAL DEAD.

St. John's Lodge.....	1	John Hinton Savage, William N. Bowden, Thos. J. Mulford.
St. John's.....	3	Samuel W. Chadwick.
Charity.....	5	Joseph A. Baggett, James H. Ward, R. P. Phelps, W. P. Gurley.
Unanimity.....	7	J. C. Floyd.
American George.....	17	G. D. Parker.
Phalanx.....	31	J. H. Henderson.
Stokes.....	32	J. F. Green.
Hiram.....	40	David Lewis.
Hall.....	53	James M. Woodhouse.
King Solomon.....	56	R. Baugham, C. B. Cocke, John T. Magee.
Kilwinning.....	64	J. D. Pemberton.
Widow's Son.....	75	A. B. Gallop, E. S. Lamb, J. M. Berry.
Greensboro.....	76	David Barnes Bell.
Zion.....	81	J. L. Kinsey, C. Brown.
LaFayette.....	83	E. A. Bess.
Morning Star.....	85	W. S. Batchelor.
Western Star.....	91	M. L. Wells.
Joseph Warren.....	92	Wiley Smith, D. G. W. Ward.
Jerusalem.....	95	T. E. Hooker, Irvin Jones, S. W. Ormand.
Hiram.....	98	Amma B. Chesnutt, Henry Vann.
Orr.....	104	O. W. Telfair.
Clinton.....	107	Samuel B. Cobb, J. W. Cobb.
Belmont.....	108	Thomas Wright.
Franklin.....	109	William J. Potter, Appleton Oaksmith, W. H. Barker, Julius F. Jones.
Wayne.....	112	Augustus Edwards, J. J. Baker.
Holly Spring.....	115	A. E. Rowland.
Mt. Lebanon.....	117	L. D. Farmer.
Mount Energy.....	140	J. W. Kemp.
Mount Vernon.....	143	J. F. Rives.
Deep River.....	164	T. F. Ward.
George Washington.....	174	R. C. Council.
Pollokville.....	175	G. W. Watson.
Pine Forest.....	186	John McL. Harrington.
Granite.....	191	A. T. Price.
Burnsville.....	192	C. F. Young.
Richland.....	214	E. S. Veach, J. W. Riddick, A. Grimes, Andrew Perryman.
William G. Hill.....	218	Charles Beasley.
Jonesville.....	227	R. G. Howell.
William T. Bain.....	231	J. H. Adams.
Cokesbury.....	235	J. H. Baughcom.
Mystic Tie.....	237	J. B. Landis.
Rountree.....	243	Joshua Manning, P. N. Pittman.
Lily Valley.....	252	Thomas Deanes.
Lee.....	253	D. A. Julian.
Beulah.....	257	H. H. Alford.
Waynesville.....	259	Samuel L. Love.
Sapona.....	280	J. A. Poe.
Eureka.....	283	C. F. Foil, E. A. Patterson.

FRATERNAL DEAD—*Continued.*

Salem	289	F. W. Miller.
French Broad	292	J. A. Bailey.
Vance	293	H. P. Buckner.
Stonewall	296	S. P. Everett.
Edgecombe	298	W. D. Mercer.
Galatia	306	Daniel K. McGill.
Patterson	307	J. B. Anthony.
Randolph	309	Jonathan Lassiter, Thomas Elliott.
Notla	312	G. M. Dickey.
King Solomon	313	James McNatt, Alex. McMillan, Sr., M. A. McPhaul.
Eureka	317	W. T. Brinkley.
Wilmington	319	C. L. Grafflin.
Selma	320	J. E. Allen.
Granite	322	A. Hines.
Mattamuskeet	328	George W. Benson, Cason Gibbs, A. J. Cox.
Lock's Creek	333	Redic Price.
Harmony	340	J. H. Perkins.
Trap Hill	346	J. M. Holbrook.
Durham	352	William G. Phipps.
Dellaplane	355	Thomas Foster.
Bakersville	357	Isaac Stuart, Robert Freeman, W. S. Hickey.
Snow	363	J. A. Farthing.
Craighead	366	S. J. Nicholson.
Campbell	374	S. E. Stewart.
Seaboard	378	J. M. Fleetwood.
Shawnee	382	J. W. Ervin.
Statesville	383	W. H. Morrison.
Reidsville	384	W. A. Gunn.
Temperance	389	Bartholomew Page.
Tally Ho	393	William H. Thomason.
Dobson	404	J. B. Kingsbury.
Ocean	405	T. W. Piner.

GRAND LODGES

*In correspondence with the Grand Lodge of North Carolina,
and names and addresses of Grand Secretaries.*

GRAND LODGE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama	Daniel Sayre	Montgomery.
Arizona	George J. Roskrige.	Tucson.
Arkansas	Fay Hempstead	Little Rock.
British Columbia	Ed. C. Neufelder	Victoria.
California	Alexander G. Abell	San Francisco.
Canada	J. J. Mason	Hamilton.
Colorado	Ed. C. Parmelee	Pueblo.
Connecticut	Joseph K. Wheeler	Hartford.
Dakota Territory	Charles T. McCoy	Aberdeen.
Delaware	William S. Hayes	Wilmington.
District of Columbia	W. R. Singleton	Washington.
England	Shadwell H. Clerke	London.
Florida	D. C. Dawkins	Jacksonville.
Georgia	A. M. Wolihin	Macon.
Idaho Territory	James H. Wickersham	Silver City.
Illinois	Loyal L. Munn	Freeport.
Indiana	William H. Smythe	Indianapolis.
Indian Territory	Rev. Jos. S. Murrow	A-to-ka.
Iowa	Theodore S. Parvin	Cedar Rapids.
Kansas	John H. Brown	Wyandotte.
Kentucky	Henry B. Grant	Louisville.
Louisiana	J. C. Batchelor, M. D.	New Orleans.
Maine	Ira Berry	Portland.
Manitoba	William G. Scott	Winnipeg.
Maryland	Jacob H. Medairy	Baltimore.
Massachusetts	Sereno D. Nickerson	Boston.
Michigan	William P. Innes	Grand Rapids.
Minnesota	A. T. C. Pierson	St. Paul.
Mississippi	J. L. Power	Jackson.
Missouri	John D. Vincil, D. D.	St. Louis.
Montana	Cornelius Hedges	Helena.
Nebraska	William R. Bowen	Omaha.
Nevada	C. N. Noteware	Carson.
New Brunswick	Edwin J. Wetmore	St. John.
New Hampshire	George P. Cleaves	Concord.
New Jersey	Joseph H. Hough	Trenton.
New Mexico	Alpheus A. Keen	Las Vegas.
New York	Edward M. L. Ehlers	New York City.
New South Wales	Mark A. Toomey	Sydney.
Nova Scotia	Benj. Curren, D. C. L.	Halifax.
Ohio	John D. Caldwell	Cincinnati.
Oregon	Frelon J. Babcock	Salem.
Pennsylvania	Michael Nisbet	Masonic Temple, Phila.

Grand Lodges in Correspondence, &c.—CONTINUED.

GRAND LODGE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Prince Edward Island	B. Wilson Higgs	Charlottetown.
Quebec	John H. Isaacson	Montreal.
Rhode Island	Edwin Baker	Providence.
South Carolina	Charles Inglesby	Charleston.
Tennessee	John Frizzell	Nashville.
Texas	Thomas W. Hudson	Houston.
Utah Territory	Christopher Diehl	Salt Lake City.
Vermont	Lavant M. Read	Bellows Falls.
Virginia	William B. Isaacs	Richmond.
Washington Territory	Thomas M. Reed	Olympia.
West Virginia	George W. Atkinson	Wheeling.
Wisconsin	John W. Laflin	Milwaukee.
Wyoming Territory	W. L. Kuykendall	Cheyenne.

REPRESENTATIVES

Of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina near other Grand Lodges.

GRAND LODGE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama	George D. Norris, M. D.	New Market.
Arkansas	John B. Baxter	Brinkley.
Canada	Lawrence H. Henderson	Belleville, Ontario.
Connecticut	A. G. Golding	Hartford.
District of Columbia	Jesse W. Lee, Jr.	Washington.
Florida	Zelotes H. Mason	Apopka.
Georgia	A. M. Wolihin	Macon.
Idaho	F. P. Cavanaugh	Hailey.
Illinois	Walter A. Stevens	Chicago.
Indiana	Elisha L. McLallen	Columbia City.
Iowa	John M. Zane	Sac City.
Kentucky	John D. Wickliffe	Bardstown.
Louisiana	Samuel M. Todd	New Orleans.
Maine	Albert Moore	North Anson.
Maryland	Samuel Eccles, Jr.	Baltimore.
Michigan	Marcus M. Atwood	Dansville.
Minnesota	William S. Combs	St. Paul.
Mississippi	A. H. Barkley	Crawfordsville.
Missouri	George E. Walker	Bonne Terre.
Nebraska	Robert W. Furnas	Brownsville.
New Jersey	William H. DeWolfe	Hackensack.
New York	William H. Kennedy	New York.
Nova Scotia	Rev. H. D. deBlois	Annapolis.
Ohio	Stith N. Sullivan	Dayton.
Pennsylvania	Michael Nisbet	Philadelphia.
Prince Edward Island	Joseph L. Dyer	Alberton.
Rhode Island	John P. Sanborn	Newport.
South Carolina	W. W. Humphrey	Anderson.
Tennessee	Jonathan S. Dawson	Paris.
Vermont	Nathan P. Bowman	St. Johnsbury.
Virginia	Alfred R. Courtney	Richmond.
Washington Territory	Nathan S. Porter	Olympia.
Wisconsin	Thomas McWilliams	Bascobel.

REPRESENTATIVES

Of other Grand Lodges near the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

GRAND LODGE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
Arkansas	Fabius H. Busbee	Raleigh.
Brazil		
Canada	George W. Blount	Wilson.
Chili	John Nichols	Raleigh.
Connecticut	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
District of Columbia	Charles H. Robinson	Wilmington.
Florida	John Nichols	Raleigh.
Georgia	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
Idaho	J. H. Mills	Thomasville.
Illinois	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
Indiana	Horace H. Munson	Wilmington.
Iowa	Charles H. Robinson	Wilmington.
Kansas	Eugene S. Martin	Wilmington.
Kentucky	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
Louisiana	Robert B. Vance	Asheville.
Maryland	Henry M. Cowan	Raleigh.
Michigan	Robert Bingham	Bingham School.
Minnesota	Eugene Grissom	Raleigh.
Missouri		
New Jersey	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
New York	Robert W. Lassiter	Oxford.
Nova Scotia	Thomas S. Kenan	Raleigh.
Oregon	John W. Cotten	Tarboro.
Ohio	Albert M. Noble	Selma.
Pennsylvania	William R. Cox	Raleigh.
Prince Edward Island		
Rhode Island	H. W. Reinhart	Thomasville.
South Carolina		
Tennessee	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
Texas	Donald W. Bain	Raleigh.
Vermont	Samuel Northrop	Wilmington.
Virginia	William F. Anderson	Raleigh.
Washington Territory	Jonathan W. Albertson	Elizabeth City.
Wisconsin	John Nichols	Raleigh.

PROCEEDINGS
OF
SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS

AT

SMITHFIELD, MAY 10TH, 1887.

WILMINGTON, MAY 12TH, 1887.

ORE HILL, CHATHAM CO., SATURDAY JULY 23D, 1887.

WINDSOR, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1ST, 1887.

NEAR SUNSBURY, GATES CO., OCTOBER 4TH, 1887.

DURHAM, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH, 1887.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION AT SMITHFIELD.

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was convened at a hall on Third street in the town of Smithfield, N. C., on Tuesday, May 10th, 1887, at 1 o'clock P. M., and was opened in ample form.

PRESENT :

M. W., CHARLES H. ROBINSON.....	<i>Grand Master.</i>
R. W., BENJAMIN F. DIXON	<i>as Deputy Grand Master.</i>
“ WILLIAM N. ROSE, JR.....	<i>as Senior Grand Warden.</i>
“ WM. E. MURCHISON.....	<i>as Junior Grand Warden.</i>
“ SIMEON R. MORGAN.....	<i>as Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ DONALD W. BAIN	<i>Grand Secretary.</i>
Bro. JOHN J. HARPER	<i>as Grand Chaplain.</i>
“ WILLIAM RICHARDSON.....	<i>as Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
“ WM. N. BENTON	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
“ FRANCIS M. MOYE.....	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
“ JOHN E. WARREN.....	<i>as Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
“ JOHN H. POWELL	<i>as Grand Pursuivant.</i>
“ ROBERT H. BRADLEY	<i>Grand Tiler.</i>

Representatives were present from Lodges Numbers 40, 84, 92, 98, 112, 125, 155, 172, 191, 218, 222, 231, 257, 320, 325, 339 and 371.

The Grand Master stated the object of the Communication to be the laying of the corner-stone of the monument erected to the memory of the Confederate dead, among them many who fell in one of the last contests of the late war, at Bentonsville, Johnston county, North Carolina.

The following special appointments were announced :

Bro. T. R. Youngblood, Bearer of the Great Lights ; Bros. Joseph Fuller and Joshua L. Scarborough, as Grand Stewards.

The Grand Master, having made the necessary prelimi-

nary announcements, the procession was formed and moved to the cemetery in the following order :

Grand Tiler, with drawn sword,
Grand Stewards,
Master Masons,
Architect, with square, level and plumb,
Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer,
Bible, Square and Compasses,
Grand Chaplain,
Junior Grand Warden, carrying the silver vessel with oil,
Senior Grand Warden, carrying the silver vessel with wine,
Deputy Grand Master, carrying the golden vessel with corn,
Bro. T. R. Youngblood, of Fellowship Lodge, No. 84, carrying the book of
constitutions,
Grand Master, attended by the Deacons,
Grand Pursuivant and Grand Sword Bearer.

On arriving at the cemetery, the procession reversed order, the Grand Officers taking position at the stone, the brethren forming on the north and east.

The Grand Master advanced, commanded silence, and made a suitable announcement.

The box containing articles was placed in the vault of the stone, and the stone was laid according to the forms of the Order.

An oration was pronounced by Bro. Alfred M. Waddell, of Wilmington, N. C., who had been invited to perform that service by the Memorial Association of Smithfield.

The Grand Lodge returned to the hall whence it set out, and was closed in ample form at 4 o'clock and 20 minutes P. M.

C. H. ROBINSON,
Grand Master.

ATTEST :

D. W. BAIN, *Grand Secretary.*

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION AT WILMINGTON.

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was convened at the Masonic Hall, in Wilmington, N. C., Thursday, May 12th, A. D. 1887, A. L. 5887, at 3 o'clock P. M., by order of the M. W. Grand Master, and was opened in ample form.

PRESENT:

M. W.,	CHAS. H. ROBINSON.....	<i>Grand Master.</i>
R. W.,	H. H. MUNSON, P. G. M.....	<i>as Deputy Grand Master.</i>
"	SAMUEL NORTHROP.....	<i>as Senior Grand Warden.</i>
"	WM. L. DEROSSET.....	<i>as Junior Grand Warden.</i>
"	WM. M. POISSON.....	<i>as Grand Treasurer.</i>
"	ALEX. S. HEIDE.....	<i>as Grand Secretary.</i>
Bro.	E. A. YATES.....	<i>as Grand Chaplain.</i>
"	JOHN W. MONROE.....	<i>as Bearer of Great Lights.</i>
"	W. S. DOSHER.....	<i>as Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
"	R. H. GRANT.....	<i>as Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
"	JOHN L. CANTWELL.....	<i>as Grand Marshal.</i>
"	E. G. BARKER.....	<i>as Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
"	S. G. HALL.....	<i>as Grand Pursuivant.</i>
"	H. C. PREMPERT.....	<i>as Grand Tiler.</i>
"	ISAAC BEAR.....	<i>as Grand Steward.</i>
"	NATHAN MYER.....	<i>as Grand Steward.</i>

Past Grand Officer—M. W., Alfred Martin, Past Grand Master.

Representatives from the following Lodges were present: St. Johns, No. 1; Phalanx, No. 31; Kilwinning, No. 64; Pythagoras, No. 249; Wilmington, No. 319; Fayetteville, No. 329; Orient, No. 395.

Visitors from Ezel, No. 372, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Alfa, of South Fremingham, Mass.; United Service of Jamaica, West Indies.

The object of the Communication, as stated by the Grand Master, was to lay the corner-stone of the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now being erected in this city.

The procession was formed and moved to the new building on the corner of Mulberry and Fourth streets.

The Grand Officers took their position at the stone, the brethren forming a hollow square.

The Grand Master, having made proclamation, laid the corner-stone with the usual forms of the Order.

The procession returned to the Masonic Hall. The business of the Special Communication being finished, the proceedings were read and approved, and the Grand Lodge closed in ample form.

C. H. ROBINSON,
Grand Master.

ATTEST :

ALEX. S. HEIDE,
Acting Grand Secretary.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION AT ORE HILL.

By virtue of authority from M. W., Charles H. Robinson, Grand Master, a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was opened in due form at Ore Hill, Chatham county, in the hall of Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 143, on Saturday, July 23d, 1887, A. L. 5887.

PRESENT:

M. W.,	WILLIAM E. MURCHISON.....	as Grand Master.
R. W.,	JOHN M. EDWARDS	as Deputy Grand Master.
"	CHARLES E. HOUSTON.....	as Senior Grand Warden.
"	ROBERT M. GORRELL.....	as Junior Grand Warden.
"	EDWARD W. PHILLIPS	as Grand Treasurer.
"	ABNER L. BROOKS.....	as Grand Secretary.
Bro.	W. F. THOM.....	as Grand Chaplain.
"	W. F. DORSETT.....	as Senior Grand Deacon.
"	NATHAN H. HERITAGE.....	as Junior Grand Deacon.
"	SIDNEY J. TALLY.....	as Grand Marshal.
"	HENRY B. WELCH.....	as Grand Tiler.
"	J. D. HACKNEY	as Grand Steward.
"	W. C. BURKE.....	as Grand Steward.

The following Lodges were represented, viz: Greensboro Lodge, No. 76; Mt. Vernon Lodge, No. 143; Chalmers Lodge, No. 151; Deep River Lodge, No. 164; Buffalo Lodge, No. 172; Flat Creek Lodge, No. 285; Siler City Lodge, No. 403.

The acting Grand Master having announced that the object of the Communication was to lay the corner-stone of Mt. Vernon Lodge, No. 143, a procession was formed and moved to the building. The corner-stone was laid according to the forms of the order.

An address having been delivered by Bro. Wm. E. Murchison, the procession returned to the Lodge room, where the Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

WM. E. MURCHISON,

ABNER L. BROOKS,

Acting Grand Master.

Acting Grand Secretary.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION AT WINDSOR.

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was held in the hall of Charity Lodge, No. 5, at Windsor, N. C., Saturday, October 1st, A. D. 1887, A. L. 5887.

PRESENT :

M. W., C. H. ROBINSON.....	<i>Grand Master.</i>
R. W., D. C. WINSTON.....	<i>as Deputy Grand Master.</i>
“ H. V. DUNSTON.....	<i>as Senior Grand Warden.</i>
“ JNO. C. TYNER.....	<i>as Junior Grand Warden.</i>
“ ETHELTON WILSON.....	<i>as Grand Treasurer.</i>
“ H. W. LYON.....	<i>as Grand Secretary.</i>
Bro. J. H. KABLER.....	<i>as Grand Chaplain.</i>
“ ESTUS WHITE.....	<i>as Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
“ WM. M. DAVIS.....	<i>as Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
“ R. W. ASKEW.....	<i>as Grand Marshal.</i>
“ P. C. JENKINS.....	<i>as Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
“ H. E. THROWER.....	<i>as Grand Steward.</i>
“ J. E. MITCHELL.....	<i>as Grand Steward.</i>
“ SOL. CHERRY, JR.....	<i>as Grand Tiler.</i>

Representatives were in attendance from the following Lodges: Charity Lodge, No. 5; Davie Lodge, No. 39; Winton Lodge, No. 327; Palmyra Lodge, No. 338.

Visitors from Berkley Lodge, No. 167, Va.; Purdie Lodge, No. 170, Va.; Mount Pleasant Lodge, No. 84, of Virginia.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, and the Grand Master stated the object of this Communication to be the laying of the corner-stone of the Bertie County Court House, now in course of construction.

The Grand Master having made the necessary preliminary announcements, the procession was formed and moved to the Court House.

The Grand Master delivered a Masonic address, appro-

priate to the occasion. Prayer was offered by the acting Grand Chaplain.

The acting Grand Secretary read the list of articles to be deposited in the box. The box containing the articles was placed in the vault of the stone. The stone was laid according to the prescribed forms of the Order.

An oration was pronounced by Francis D. Winston, Esq., of Windsor, in the presence of a large assembly.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the hall of Charity Lodge, No. 5, at 1:30 P. M.

Bro. R. W. Askew introduced the following resolution, to-wit, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the proceedings of the Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Masons for to-day, together with the address of the Grand Master and the oration of Francis D. Winston, Esq., be published in the *Windsor Public Ledger*.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed in ample form.

C. H. ROBINSON,
Grand Master.

ATTEST:

H. W. LYON,
Acting Grand Secretary.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION NEAR SUNSBURY, GATES CO.

By virtue of a dispensation of the Grand Master, a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was held at the residence of Mr. J. B. Speight, on Tuesday, the 4th day of October, A. D. 1887, A. L. 5887, near Sunsbury, Gates county, N. C.

PRESENT:

M. W.,	W. H. RIDDICK.....	as Grand Master.
R. W.,	H. CLAY WILLIAMS.....	as Deputy Grand Master.
"	R. E. RIDDICK	as Senior Grand Warden.
"	B. D. LAWRENCE	as Junior Grand Warden.
"	DAVID W. PARKER.....	as Grand Treasurer.
"	THOS. PARKER	as Grand Secretary.
Bro.	W. C. JONES	as Senior Grand Deacon.
"	R. G. WIGGINS	as Junior Grand Deacon.
"	W. W. SAVAGE	as Grand Steward.
"	L. S. PARKER ..	as Grand Steward.
"	JOHN A. ROUNTREE	as Grand Tiler.

Jethro T. White, Perquimans Lodge, No. 106; D. Barclift, Winton Lodge, No. 327; Bros. James H. Freeman, D. E. Benton, Josephus Eason, T. E. Ward, H. B. Hurdle, Alexander Copeland, W. T. Ellis, W. S. Wiggins, Geo. J. Costen, J. B. Jones, George W. Hays, John R. Hill, Elisha Cross.

Visiting Brethren—Thos. W. Savage, McAlister Lodge, No. 185, Va.; Amos B. Badger, McAlister Lodge, No. 185, Va.; Sampson Rea, McAlister Lodge, No. 185, Va.; Benjamin Saunders, McAlister Lodge, No. 185, Va.; Robert Rogers, Somerton Lodge, No. 99, Va.; W. T. Lee, Somerton Lodge, No. 99, Va.; P. H. Lee, Somerton Lodge, No. 99, Va.; W. T. Goodman, Somerton Lodge, No. 99, Va.

The acting Grand Master opened the Grand Lodge in due form for the purpose of laying the corner-stone of Damascus Church. The rules for regulating the procession were read by the acting Grand Secretary. The necessary cautions were then given, and the Grand Lodge moved in

procession to the building where the corner-stone was laid with the usual Masonic ceremonies. The acting Grand Master addressed the audience, followed by Rev. W. W. Stayley, after which the procession returned to the place whence it set out.

The business having been concluded, the acting Grand Master closed the Grand Lodge in due form.

THOS. PARKER,

Acting Grand Secretary.

W. H. RIDDICK,

Acting Grand Master.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION AT DURHAM.

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina was convened at the Masonic Hall in the town of Durham, N. C., on Thursday, November 17th, 1887, at 10 o'clock A. M., and was opened in ample form.

PRESENT :

M. W.,	CHARLES H. ROBINSON.....	<i>Grand Master.</i>
R. W.,	GEORGE W. BLOUNT, P. G. M....	<i>as Deputy Grand Master.</i>
"	JAMES SOUTHGATE	<i>as Senior Grand Warden.</i>
"	JULIAN S. CARR	<i>as Junior Grand Warden.</i>
"	CHARLES R. SCOTT	<i>as Grand Treasurer.</i>
"	DONALD W. BAIN	<i>Grand Secretary.</i>
Bro.	THOMAS H. PRITCHARD.....	<i>as Grand Chaplain.</i>
"	REUBEN KELLY	<i>as Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
"	SAMUEL LEHMAN	<i>as Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
"	HORACE N. SNOW	<i>as Grand Marshal.</i>
"	J. D. MALONE.....	<i>as Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
"	ABBOTT E. LLOYD.....	<i>as Grand Steward.</i>
"	EUGENE G. HARRELL.....	<i>as Grand Steward.</i>
"	ROBERT H. BRADLEY	<i>Grand Tiler.</i>

Representatives were present from the following Lodges : Hiram, No. 40 ; Kilwinning, No. 64 ; Mount Lebanon, No. 117 ; Mount Energy, No. 140 ; Wm. G. Hill, No. 218 ; Anchor, No. 234 ; Mount Pisgah, No. 368.

Visitor—Bro. H. J. Bass, Marshall Lodge, No. 39, Lynchburg, Va.

The Grand Master stated the object of this Communication to be to lay the corner-stone of the Court House of the county of Durham.

The Grand Master announced the following special appointments :

Bro. Alexander Walker, Bearer of the Great Lights, and Bros. Edward Dalby and L. D. Heartt his supporters.

The Grand Master having made the necessary preliminary announcements, the procession was formed and moved through some of the principal streets of the town to the building, in the following order:

Grand Tiler, with drawn sword,
Grand Stewards,
Master Masons,
B. A. Purgin, Architect, with Square, Level and Plumb,
Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer,
Bible, Square and Compasses,
Grand Chaplain,
Junior Grand Warden, carrying the silver vessel with oil,
Senior Grand Warden, carrying the silver vessel with wine,
Deputy Grand Master, carrying the golden vessel with corn,
Grand Master,
Grand Sword Bearer.

The civil officers of the county and town of Durham were also assigned places in the procession.

On arriving at the building the procession reversed order, and the Grand Officers took position at the stone, the brethren forming line on the north and east.

The Grand Master advanced, commanded silence and made proclamation.

Prayer was offered by the acting Grand Chaplain.

Articles were deposited in the stone, of which the following is a list:

Masonic Code of North Carolina; Copy of Proceedings Grand Lodge of N. C., 1887; Charter of Town of Durham, adopted by Board of Commissioners January 19, 1886; History Town of Durham, 2d. edition, by H. V. Paul, 1884; Sketch of Tobacco Interest of N. C., by J. D. Cameron, 1881; Charter and By-Laws Blackwell's Durham Co-Operative Tobacco Company, Durham, N. C., January 11, 1887; The Tobacco Plant, Nov. 16, 1887; Silver Dollar, date 1887, by county of Durham; one British Coin, date 1820; Statement of Organization of County of Durham, May 2, 1881; Lock and Keys, representing Lloyd & Co., Durham; Turner's N. C. Almanac, 1887; List of Grand Officers assisting in laying this corner-stone; Memorandum in Writing, by J. S. Carr; Confederate Currency; Photograph of Durham Light Infantry; Copy of Holy Scriptures; one 4-oz. Package Genuine Durham Smoking Tobacco; one 2-oz. Package Blackwell's Durham

Long Cut Tobacco ; one copy of the Planter's Journal, Vicksburg, Miss., May, 1884 ; copy of Western Tobacco Journal, Cincinnati, Ohio, May 15, 1882 ; copy of Durham Whiffs ; copy of Weekly Sentinel, Winston, September 16, 1886 ; Act to Establish and Provide for Organizing the County of Durham, Ratified Feb. 28, 1881.

The box containing the articles was placed in the vault of the stone by the acting Grand Treasurer, and the stone was laid according to the forms of the Order.

An oration was pronounced by Hon. Thomas W. Mason, of Northampton county, N. C.

The Grand Lodge returned to the Masonic Hall and was closed in ample form.

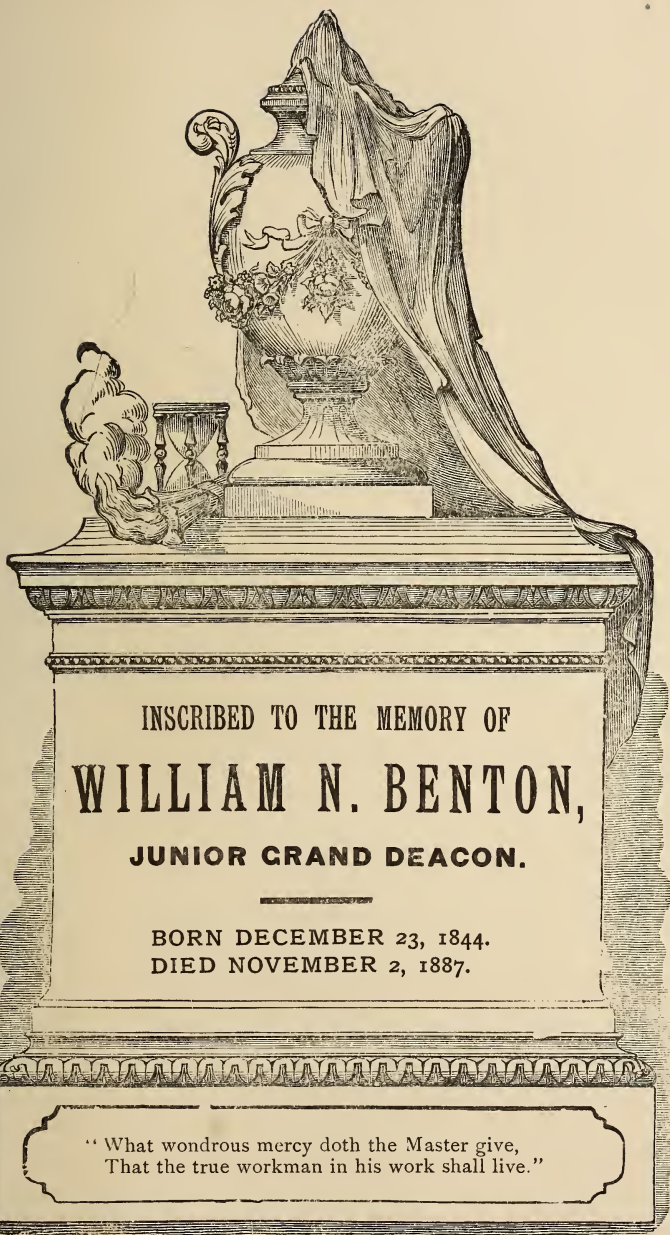
CHARLES H. ROBINSON,

ATTEST :

Grand Master.

DONALD W. BAIN,

Grand Secretary.



INSCRIBED TO THE MEMORY OF
WILLIAM N. BENTON,
JUNIOR GRAND DEACON.

BORN DECEMBER 23, 1844.
DIED NOVEMBER 2, 1887.

“What wondrous mercy doth the Master give,
That the true workman in his work shall live.”

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APPENDIX.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of North Carolina :

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence present their review of the Proceedings of Grand Lodges, as follows :

Arizona	1886	New Mexico	1887
Canada	1887	New Hampshire.....	1887
Connecticut	1887	New Jersey	1887
Dakota	1887	New York	1887
District of Columbia.....	1886	Nova Scotia.....	1887
Florida	1887	Oregon	1887
Idaho	1887	Pennsylvania	1886
Illinois	1887	Prince Edward Island.....	1887
Indian Territory.....	1887	Quebec	1887
Iowa	1887	Rhode Island.....	1887
Kansas	1887	South Carolina	1886
Maine	1887	Tennessee	1887
Manitoba	1887	Texas	1886
Maryland,	November, 1886	Vermont	1887
Maryland,	May, 1887	Virginia	1886
Massachusetts	1886—1887	Washington Territory	1887
Minnesota	1887	Wisconsin	1887
Mississippi.....	1887	Wyoming.....	1886
Missouri	1887	England.....	1886—1887
Nebraska	1887	Scotland.....	1887
New Brunswick	1887		

ARIZONA—1886.

The fifth annual Communication was held at Phoenix on November 9th, 1886, and opened in ample form by Grand Master Benjamin Titus. The Grand Master's address is very brief, announcing among other things the death of Bro. John T. Alsap, P. G. M., and one decision, governed, however, by the Constitution of that Grand Jurisdiction.

The following is of general interest:

The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom had been referred the International Resolutions emanating from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, presented the following report, which, on motion, was adopted:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Arizona:

Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom at the last Communication of this Grand Lodge, were referred the so-called "International Resolutions," emanating from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, beg leave to report that we have given the matter, as a whole, that respectful consideration which is due to a question considered of sufficient importance by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana to be brought to the attention of this Grand Lodge.

We have carefully examined the several questions covered by the resolutions, and conclude that an international or inter-Grand Lodge law, or set of rules, is impracticable, ill-advised, and contrary to the spirit of exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty, and, therefore, we do not deem it wise or expedient to attempt their universal adoption.

The report on Correspondence is very brief, the following excuse and promise being made:

Politics and other causes combined have prevented the chairman from making an extended review of these proceedings. Whether we owe an apology for this seeming neglect of duty, or are entitled to thanks, will depend on your views when our shortcomings are compared with the gain in the treasury.

In conclusion, the writer begs leave to add the assurance that in the future his work will be more faithfully performed, and trusts that he has deserved well enough of the fraternity "to meet with generous and tender usage from their hands."

Upon a faithful performance only of the promise, will we excuse you, for we would like to know more of our far western sister.

The Grand Orator, Bro. James A. Zabiskie, delivered an oration replete with learning and gems of thought eloquently expressed.

Bro. Martin W. Kales was elected Grand Master and the Grand Secretary re-elected.

CANADA—1887.

Special Communication at Petrolia, June 28th, 1887, to lay the corner stone of a Masonic Temple. Grand Master Henry Robertson presided and performed the ceremonies.

The thirty-second Annual Communication, at Brockville, July 13th, 1887, was opened in ample form by Grand Master Robertson.

The Grand Master's Address contains many matters of interest. He reports the craft in harmonious and prosperous condition, and increasing in numbers. He attended the Masonic Convention at Chicago, in June last, and as we have not seen elsewhere so concise a report of its proceedings, we copy the following from his address:

By invitation I attended a Masonic Convention, held at Chicago, on the 22d, 23d and 24th days of June, 1887. The Convention was composed of Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters, and was called for consultation and advice

on various Masonic matters. Among the subjects which were discussed were the following:

- "What is a legal avouchment?"
- "The physical qualifications of candidates."
- "The prerogatives of the Grand Master."
- "Perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates."
- "Grand Lodge sovereignty," etc., etc.

The attendance was not large, but the proceedings and discussions were exceedingly interesting and instructive. No one present favored the idea of a general Grand Lodge, and a resolution was passed strongly upholding the doctrine of the absolute supremacy of Grand Lodges in their several jurisdictions.

The question of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates was strongly argued on both sides, but the weight of opinion and argument was decidedly against that doctrine.

On physical qualifications, the rule was stated to be that a candidate who was physically capable of complying literally with all the requirements of the degrees was eligible to admission.

On avouchment, the prevailing sentiment was that no brother should vouch for a visitor, unless he had sat with him in a regular lodge or had examined him as one of a committee appointed by the Master for that purpose.

It has been proposed that these meetings should be continued annually, and in my opinion great good would result therefrom, in the advisory settlement of disputed questions of inter-jurisdictional interest, in the knowledge obtained of improved methods of conducting our Masonic work and in the more complete development of fraternal intercourse. It afforded me much pleasure to extend to these distinguished brethren an invitation to hold their next meeting in the City of Toronto.

He does not permit joint procession, and says, which we endorse :

Several applications have been made to me to allow Masons to appear in public as such, jointly with other societies, and also to allow the use of Masonic halls jointly with other societies, all of which I felt myself compelled to refuse.

Our institution is not for show, and I understand the rule to be imperative that only on strictly Masonic occasions should our brethren appear in public clothed with the badges of the order.

Our halls also are solemnly dedicated and consecrated to the service of the craft and should not be used by any other body or persons who are not members of the fraternity.

Proceedings confined to local matters.

No report on Correspondence.

Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected.

CONNECTICUT—1887.

The ninety-ninth annual Communication was held in New Haven, January 19, 1887, and opened in ample form by the Grand Master Henry H. Green. The Grand Master's address is a very interesting and instructive document, and imparts to us very pleasing information in regard to masonry in that grand jurisdiction. He calls special attention to intemperance as a grave masonic offense "which more than any other calls for masonic discipline * * * and

which if tolerated in any degree cannot fail to lessen the efficiency of our order, if not to threaten its perpetuity." In a learned and touching manner he calls upon masonry to suppress this vice and save the institution from its polluting stain. And to his entreaties we heartily respond, So mote it be. A fine engraving of this able Mason adorns the Proceedings, and he was re-elected Grand Master.

The Grand Secretary, Bro. J. K. Wheeler, prepared and presented the Report on Masonic Correspondence, and a most able and interesting paper it is, displaying critical acumen and fine discrimination.

North Carolina receives very handsome attention and the address of Grand Master Busbee is commended and freely quoted from.

Bro. Wheeler was re-elected Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT—SPECIAL—1887.

A Special Communication was held at Hartford on April 20th, 1887, and opened in ample form by Grand Master Henry M. Green.

The Grand Master in his address explained "the unfortunate business" which called the Grand Lodge together, to-wit, the action of Hiram Lodge No. 1; and after stating the conduct of that Lodge towards the Grand Lodge and Grand Master, left the matter in the hands of the Grand Lodge for consideration.

It is impossible, without inserting the entire proceedings, to present a satisfactory statement of the case. We therefore abstain, merely reporting that charges of gross insubordination were preferred against the Lodge and its Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Secretary, Treasurer and certain members, and a trial had, which resulted in the revocation of the charter of the Lodge, and the conviction and expulsion "from all the rights and privileges of masonry" of the officers and accused members of the Lodge, except the Treasurer, upon whom judgment was suspended until the next annual Communication.

We extremely regret and deplore the above condition of affairs in that Grand Jurisdiction, and hope the day is not far distant when peace and harmony will again prevail.

DAKOTA—1887.

The thirteenth Annual Communication was held in Huron, on Tuesday, June 14th, 1887, and was opened in ample form by Grand Master William Blatt.

The Grand Master's Address is interesting and contains many good things. Among others he says :

Intemperance, profanity and covetousness, with all their train of kindred evils, should feel the hand of our severe condemnation, not only through the legal method of organized society and in a general way, but specifically and

among our own they should be strenuously suppressed by our own methods. To the eradication of such vices, Masonry should direct every effort. Their existence and practice are the source of that stream that fills penal institutions and the graves of suicides. I do not enter upon an exposition of the principles of Masonry in relation to these vices. None is needed. Let it suffice that they are not to be met or overcome solely, if at all, by grand acts and in notable events, but by the law of our method in all our lodges and homes and relations with our brethren. "Line upon line, line upon line; precept upon precept, precept upon precept; here a little and there a little." These duties are first to our brethren and then unto all, that the world as well as the brethren may be better for every good Mason within it.

He states that the fraternal relations are most friendly and brotherly, and the state of the craft in that Grand Jurisdiction "prosperous beyond expectations."

Under the head of "Dispensations," he says :

I refused two requests of lodges to appear in public on Memorial Day. I believe no Masonic Lodge should appear in public in the clothing, with the lights and jewels of Masonry, unless for the purpose of doing Masonic work. When a public ceremonial is conducted by and under the exclusive control of any but a Masonic body, I deem it wrong for a lodge to participate. It is our duty as citizens as well as Masons to be patriotic, but patriotism, and gratitude to the memory of our fallen heroes does not consist of a parade by a Masonic lodge.

On examining the ballot upon a petition for the degrees, the W. M. discovered one dark ballot and believed the same to have been in the box prior to the spreading of the ballot, and without declaring the result ordered another. This action I held perfectly right and proper. The second ballot showed the same result, to-wit: One dark ballot, upon which the petition was declared rejected. Some days subsequent the brother who cast the dark ballot said to the Master that he cast it because he deemed the second ballot illegal, and finding himself in error, he desired to make the acknowledgment, and withdrew his objection. A request for a dispensation to take another ballot in the case I refused, because I believe that a petition once declared rejected should not be reconsidered for any cause whatsoever.

He sets forth eight decisions on questions of Masonic Law, all of which meets with an approval except the eighth, which is as follows :

Every Master Mason in good standing is entitled to Masonic burial, and any non-affiliated Master Mason of known good character may receive Masonic burial by vote of the lodge and approval of the Worshipful Master.

This is not the law in this jurisdiction.

The Library had a most extensive and valuable addition of 500 volumes, a present from Bro. T. S. Parvin, of Iowa.

The Grand Secretary's report shows 94 lodges and 3,594 members, an admirable exhibit.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That no person who is engaged in the business of keeping a saloon or is engaged in the business of retailing intoxicating liquors to be used as a

beverage shall be initiated into any particular lodge in this jurisdiction, nor shall any brother Mason who is engaged in such business be received in any lodge as a member by affiliation.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

Bro. Henry M. Wheeler elected Grand Master; Grand Secretary re-elected.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—1886.

The annual Communication was held on November 10th, 1886, and was opened in due form by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Jose M. Yznaga, the Grand Master being absent on account of illness.

The address of the Grand Master was read by the Grand Secretary.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is a full and very interesting review of the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges. The ninety-ninth Communication of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina receives extended mention. The address of Bro. C. H. Robinson, then Deputy Grand Master, being set forth in full. Bro. Jose M. Yznaga was elected Grand Master, and Bro. Wm. R. Singleton re-elected Grand Secretary.

FLORIDA—1887.

The fifty-eighth annual Communication was held at Jacksonville on January 18th, 1887, and opened in ample form by Grand Master G. S. Hallmark.

The address of the Grand Master is interesting and contains an eloquent apostrophe to masonry and its objects. The decisions met an approval. No report from Committee on Foreign Correspondence. Grand Master and Grand Secretary Dawkins re-elected.

IDAHO—1887.

The twentieth annual Communication held at Boise on September 13th, 1887, and opened in ample form by Grand Master George H. Davis.

The Grand Master's address is interesting and presents a cheering view of masonry in that youthful jurisdiction. Though mostly confined to local matters, we note that he does not believe in "a Grand Masonic Congress" for fear it "will in time fancy itself possessed of powers not at all contemplated in its inception." We endorse the sentiment.

Under decisions he reports two governed by local law; the first of which differs from the law here, and we think is opposed to principle and policy. In the second we concur.

The Grand Lodge of South Australia recognized.

The Grand Secretary reports satisfactory "condition of masonic affairs."

No report on Correspondence.

Bro. Edward A. Stevenson elected Grand Master. Grand Secretary re-elected.

ILLINOIS--1887.

On opening the volume before us, we behold a fine etched likeness of that illustrious mason, M. W. Theodore T. Gurney, P. G. M., and just after it the proceedings of An Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge convened at Chicago on November 11th, 1886, to perform his funeral obsequies. Grand Master Alexander T. Darrah opened it in ample form and delivered a most appropriate address. We quote the following deserved and beautiful tribute to our deceased Bro. Gurney:

No one stood higher in the estimation of the Craft than he. No one enjoyed the confidence, respect and esteem of his brethren to a greater degree. He was honest, conscientious, upright, a true and faithful brother. The proud position the Grand Lodge of Illinois sustains to-day among the Grand Lodges of the world, is as much due to the faithful and intelligent service and labors of Bro. Gurney as to that of any other brother. No one has labored more earnestly and zealously in the interests of the Craft. No one is entitled to a greater reward.

His loss is not ours alone. The loss is to the Craft generally. Wherever Masons are found, there a loss has been sustained. The church has lost a zealous supporter, an indefatigable worker; the State a quiet, peaceable, order loving citizen; society one of its brightest ornaments; the grief-stricken widow a kind and loving husband; the children an indulgent and warm-hearted father; the sister a dearly beloved brother, and a proud city one of its most efficient and faithful officers. Brethren, let us humbly bow in submission to the will of Him who noteth the sparrow's fall, and who will fold His arms of love and compassion around those who put their trust in Him.

The forty-eighth annual Communication was opened in ample form by Grand Master Darrah at Chicago on October 4th, 1887. The Grand Master's address occupies fifty pages and touches fully upon matters in his jurisdiction. We admire the following, and commend its sentiments to all:

Amidst all the turmoil and scramble for place and distinction, it is a source of great pleasure to know that the grand old institution of Masonry is quietly going forward in the performance of its duty, and by its unobtrusiveness commanding the respect and confidence of the discerning, thinking, intelligent public. Brethren, let us go on in the discharge of every duty, not "with sounding brass and tinkling cymbal," but quietly, silently, in the still watches of the night, if need be, when there is no eye to see save that Eye that never sleeps. Let us see to it that the tears of the widow and the orphan are dried up, that their sorrowful hearts are comforted and made to rejoice, and especially let us see to it that these dependent ones want not for the comforts and necessities of life. If we pursue this course and thereby practice the principles of Masonry, we need have no fears for the perpetuity of our beloved Institution. So long as there is a sorrow to be assuaged, a tear to be dried, hungry to feed, naked to clothe, sick to visit or deeds of mercy to be performed, and Masons are true to their trust, so long will Masonry stand. Thrones may tremble and go down. Empires may decay. Nations may destroy nations; principalities and powers may pass away, yet Masonry, if true to itself, will stand as firm as the everlasting hills, because it is founded upon the ever-living rock of TRUTH, RELIEF and BROTHERLY LOVE. Fear not, only let us be true to ourselves and to our covenants, and our children's children will live to bless and venerate so noble an Institution as ours until time shall be no more.

He remarks as follows on the England-Quebec relations:

To my mind the most inconsistent position for a Grand Lodge to occupy, is for it to recognize as an Independent Sovereign Grand Lodge, that of Quebec, and at the same time recognize the three lodges in the city of Montreal that persistently defy the authority of that Grand Lodge. I am fully persuaded that if each Grand Lodge that has acknowledged the Grand Lodge of Quebec as an Independent Sovereign Grand Lodge, exercising exclusive Masonic jurisdiction over that Province, would say to the three lodges that are in rebellion to that authority: "we cannot recognize your lodges as regular lodges of Masons so long as you refuse obedience to the Grand Lodge of Quebec," the wrong would soon be made right, and that Grand Lodge be in fact what it is in name, a Free and Independent Sovereign Grand Lodge, with every regular lodge and Mason in that Province in obedience to the only legitimate source of authority.

Four decisions are reported, in which we concur, except the third:

3. Seven Master Masons, *exclusive of the Tiler*, must be present before a lodge can be opened on any degree. The Tiler, not being actually present, cannot be counted as one of the seven.

Why should the Tiler, if a member of the Lodge, be excluded? Reading further on in the Proceedings, we find that the Committee on Jurisprudence reported *adversely* on this decision, and the Grand Lodge adopted the report.

He speaks with much force and true feeling about electioneering for office:

To command the respect, esteem and confidence of our brethren, to be qualified for and to occupy official position in this Grand Lodge, is a laudable ambition and worthy of consideration by any brother.

It should be considered a very high honor to be able to serve the Craft in any capacity, but more especially as an officer of so important an assemblage of intelligent persons as compose this Grand Lodge. In order to enjoy this honor to its fullest extent, the office should seek the brother, and not the brother the office.

This leads me to say, and I regret very much the necessity for saying it, that a system of electioneering for place and position has crept into this Grand Lodge that should be speedily checked. This has gone on and on, until the methods now in vogue will compare favorably with the most approved scramble for political place and power. Early in my Masonic life I was firmly impressed with the belief that electioneering for office in lodge or Grand Lodge would not be tolerated; and that the most that could be legitimately done was to present the names of brethren for various offices at the time of election. I believe this to be the true Masonic principle of action to-day. Contrast this with what is transpiring among members of this Grand Lodge, and see how far we have departed from the rule of practice as adopted by our fathers. When the contest between brethren for office becomes so warm that one charges the other with unfair means in the contest; when crimination and recrimination is indulged in and undue advantages charged, as has recently transpired, is it not time that a halt should be called? If these things are tolerated this Grand Lodge will soon degenerate into a mere political machine, as has occurred in a very conspicuous Grand Lodge on the American Continent, where two eminent Past Grand Masters were denied the privilege of visiting, for fear some undue influence might be exerted that would disturb the harmony of the political machine that was running, not smoothly, in that distinguished body of Masons. Breth-

ren, the remedy is in your hands; apply it at once, and before it is too late. Administer such rebuke as will settle the matter for years to come. Do this and save the reputation of Masonry, and the honor and dignity of this Grand Lodge.

All of which we endorse.

The Report on Correspondence is by Bro. Daniel M. Browning, and is a very interesting review. North Carolina, 1887, is very pleasantly noticed. Grand Master Busbee's address freely quoted from. Centennial exercises and the Report on Correspondence mentioned.

Bro. John C. Smith elected Grand Master. Grand Secretary re-elected.

INDIAN TERRITORY—1887.

The thirtieth annual Communication was held at Eufaula, Muskogee Nation, November 1st and 2d, 1887, Grand Master F. H. Nash presiding. Twenty-one lodges represented.

The Grand Master's address contains many practical suggestions for the better regulation of the lodges. He indulges in some plain talk, as follows:

Another point to be considered is the gentlemanly conduct of members during lodge hours. Do we all consult the comfort and pleasure of others in the indulgence of the tobacco habit? How many times have you had to open your lodge room windows, just a little, to let the tobacco smoke out so that you might see better or breathe a little easier—or to be careful not to upset the spittoon already filled to the brim with a most nauseous mixture? When you meet, if you have no work, instead of going through the form of opening and closing with a dull routine (as I have seen it done) then leaving and hastening home as if a task had been accomplished—discuss some points in Masonry upon which your minds are not perfectly clear; get light from others. None are too old to learn. Post yourselves upon the lectures, drill your officers; in short, let each lodge try to be the color bearer.

The Grand Secretary's intelligent work is clearly seen in the condition of affairs in his jurisdiction.

The following resolutions were adopted unanimously by a rising vote:

WHEREAS, The laws of the United States prohibit the introduction of intoxicating liquors into the Indian Territory, and the several tribal nations have endorsed these laws by enacting similar ones; and whereas, the evil of intemperance is one of the greatest curses to our country and one of the most prolific causes of dissensions among the Craft; and,

WHEREAS, Temperance is one of the cardinal virtues of Masonry; and we, as Masons, are pledged to uphold and support the laws of our country; therefore be it

Resolved, Whenever any Mason shall appear in public in an intoxicated condition, the W. M. of his Lodge at the next regular meeting, shall order the J. W. to prefer charges against the brother; and should any Mason appear in a masonic hall, during labor, in an intoxicated condition, the W. M. shall temporarily suspend such brother until the J. W. shall have preferred charges, and the matter be passed upon by the Lodge; and be it further

Resolved, That when any subordinate Lodge refuses to properly discipline

its members for intemperance or other unmasonic conduct, it shall be the duty of the M. W. G. M. to arrest the charter of such Lodge, and report the facts to the Grand Lodge at its next meeting.

Rev. Bro. A. Frank Ross delivered an eloquent address as Grand Orator, the principal topics of which were gambling, intemperance, profanity and slander, which he handled boldly and ably.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary. He is an interesting writer. Proceedings of North Carolina, 1886, are pleasantly reviewed.

Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected.

IOWA—1887.

The volume before us presents an engraved likeness of Grand Master W. P. Allen, as frontispiece, and contains the Proceedings of an Emergent Grand Lodge, convened at Davenport, on June 8th, 1887, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the New Masonic Temple, and of the forty-fourth Annual Communication, held at the same place on June 7th, 1887.

Grand Master Allen presided at both Communications, and, at the annual, delivered a remarkably fine address discussing many subjects of interest within and without his jurisdiction. Because of the information given on a matter of general interest, we quote some of his remarks on

NATIONAL MASONIC CONGRESS.

Late last fall I received from Most Worshipful Brother Gove, Grand Master of Minnesota, a request to unite with him and others in calling a congress of Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters.

I replied, asking for particular information as to the purpose had in view by the projectors of the conference, stating the position our Grand Lodge had long ago assumed with regard to the organization of a general Grand Lodge, and intimating that under no circumstances could I be induced to unite in any attempt to that end. Grand Master Gove's reply explicitly disclaimed that any other motive actuated the originators of the idea than that of conferring together with regard to the means to the end of harmonizing conflicting views upon disputed questions of masonic law and usage, whereupon I agreed to sign the call.

The Grand Master gives the history of the action of the Grand Lodge on this subject at different times, and concludes as follows:

I have been thus precise in outlining the history of the connection of our Grand Lodge with this question to show that I had precedent on my side when I signed the call for the national meeting at Chicago this month. I believed then, and believe now, that such an informal conference can do no harm, despite the fears expressed by the masonic press and certain individual Masons. These brethren will meet, not as authorized representatives of their Grand Lodges, but as individual Masons. They have certainly the right thus to amuse themselves, if they desire to do so. The meeting in any event will be a notable one, and perhaps may be of service to the craft. It will, I think, contain enough conservative members to prevent an attempt to inflict upon the Grand Lodges of the country an imperial head.

We do not agree however with the Grand Master, that "such informal conferences can do no harm." On the contrary, they can and may cause much mischief, and it is far safer not to have them.

He feelingly mentions the death of P. G. M. J. W. Wilson, "a good man and a true man in all the relations of life, and an ardent and well informed Mason."

The Grand Secretary's report is able and interesting. He informs us that

Should our life be spared to see the "ides of March," we shall have then rounded out a full half-century of masonic service—more extensive and varied than has ever fallen to the lot of man. Becoming a Mason in the third lodge organized west of the Alleghany Mountains (1791) in March, 1838, we were, the night we became a Master Mason, elected Secretary of the lodge, in which we were the only youthful member—under thirty-five years of age. From that night, save the two years interregnum till the organization of Des Moines Lodge, No. 1, Burlington, Iowa, in 1840, of which we were a charter member and officer, we have held a prominent office and *served* the brethren. Forty-eight years of active and official service in Iowa. A member of the conventions which organized the Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, and Grand Commandery of Iowa; first Grand Secretary, and later Grand Master; first Grand High Priest, and first Grand Commander; we have never missed a session of the first, and only two (when absent from the State) of the latter in all these years.

We became a member of the national bodies—General Grand Chapter, and the Grand Encampment—in 1856, and for fifteen of these years an officer in the latter, and serving on important committees in both.

Whether our labors in these and other fields have served in any way to enrich our brethren and the order, "deponent saith not," but we do say we have impoverished ourself and sacrificed therein time and talent which, had they been devoted to the profession (law) of our early manhood, would have enriched us and those now dependant upon us. In some respects our life has been a signal failure, and it is too late in old age to remedy the follies of youth.

Fifty years of *Masonic* life and service—a period that transcends the present span of our *natural* life. Truly a magnificent record, before which we bow in profound homage and veneration. We most sincerely hope and pray that our distinguished and venerable brother may be spared to see the "ides of March," and that they will *not* prove so fatal to him as they did to the great Cæsar.

The Committee on Correspondence made a Special Report on "Foreign Relations," and in the matter between the Grand Lodges of England and Quebec, recommended the following resolutions:

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, that it is every way equitable and right, and would greatly tend to the peace, harmony, and prosperity of the craft, that the three lodges in the Province of Quebec now in allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England should transfer their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will rejoice in all reasonable and proper efforts to secure this desirable object, and that to this end the Grand Lodge of England be earnestly requested to use her earnest endeavors, and authority, if need be, as a last resort, to induce its three subordinate lodges in that province to transfer their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

They also recommended that the following "new" Grand Lodges be recognized: *South Australia, United Mexico at Vera Cruz, and Federal District of the United States of Mexico*—and postponed action on the Grand Lodge of *Victoria, Australia*. The report was adopted.

The Committee on Jurisprudence presented a report, a part of which we insert with the action of the Grand Lodge thereon:

First Query. A brother being in arrears for dues, is suspended for non-payment thereof. Seven years thereafter his application for reinstatement is presented, accompanied by the arrearages aforesaid. In due time the ballot is spread and the petitioner is rejected. Shall the lodge retain the money which is legitimately due it, or shall it return it with the rejected petition to the applicant?

Answer. The money being the lawful dues long owing the lodge, should by it be retained. It was the duty of the applicant to pay it. The payment of the petitioner's long-withheld and just indebtedness to the lodge and the ballot on the question of reinstatement are separate and distinct acts. The latter is not dependent upon the former.

It is proper to say that Brother Deering dissents from the views of the majority of the committee, for reasons which he will verbally state to the Grand Lodge.

Past Grand Master Luse moved to amend the report by striking out the words, "which is legitimately due to it," (the lodge), also striking out all the answer to the query that refers directly or by implication to the lodge being the lawful owner of the dues, and insert the words, "that in case the lodge refuses to reinstate the applicant, the money so tendered shall be returned to him."

Which amendment was agreed to.

The question recurring upon the adoption of that part of the report as amended, the same was adopted.

The report of the Committee as presented meets our approval, and we think the Grand Lodge erred in adopting the *amended report*.

We have always thought that when a member of a lodge, *who is able to pay*, will not pay his dues and is dropped from the rolls, that the payment of all dues in arrears is a *condition precedent* to the *consideration* of an application for restoration, but not to the *admission* of the applicant. The applicant, by his neglect or refusal to pay his dues, violates his obligation to his fellow members and justly forfeits his membership. When he applies to be reinstated, the Lodge should refuse to receive, or consider his application as long as he remains *tainted* with the breach of obligation to contribute his share to the support of the lodge. Let him remove this taint of bad faith, by paying his just debts to the lodge. Thus atoning for his past delinquency, and then, with some grace and "clean hands," can he come before the lodge, seeking its favors and confidence. Not until he has done this, is he entitled to any consideration, and then it is for the lodge to say whether it will admit him to membership again. But if the principle endorsed by the Grand Lodge of Iowa is correct, it amounts to this, that the applicant, without making any offer of amends, says to the lodge, "I will pay what I owe you, *provided* you reinstate me;" a condition derogatory to the dignity of the lodge and the free, untrammelled action of its members. Moreover, we are totally at a loss to discover upon principle of law,

or justice, the words "*which is legitimately due*" and "*all the answer to the query that refers directly or by implication to the lodge being the lawful owner of the dues.*" should be stricken out; for that is exactly the "size of it," and a correct statement of the matter in law and morals.

The Report on Correspondence, covering 234 pages, is, of course, by that consummate Reporter, Bro. T. S. Purvin, Grand Secretary, and a most able and instructive report it is. We have carefully read the whole of it and derived much benefit from the information and valuable discussions of masonic law and matters it contains. Bro. Parvin makes few extracts, as he says he does not "class scissors among masonic tools;" but he gives to each Proceedings a most careful examination, and then expresses his own views and opinions.

In speaking of the reports on Correspondence, he says:

If a report be prepared solely for the jurisdiction publishing it, the writer should confine himself exclusively to quoting from the *proceedings* of the Grand Lodges reviewed, and ignoring the "reports on correspondence," which are mere expressions of the opinion of the writers, and in no instance adopted or made authoritative by the Grand Lodge for which they are written. We, in our ignorance, had supposed these reports were two-fold in their character; written, first, to inform the brethren at home of what has transpired during the year in other jurisdictions; next, to discuss the various subjects legislated upon with the view of harmonizing conflicting opinions and securing a common legislation on essential subjects which shall be uniform throughout the land. We do not hesitate to say, based upon long experience and observation, that the reports on correspondence written by good and able men, as many of them have been, have done more to elevate the high standard of masonic jurisprudence and secure from the world the high recognition which Freemasonry holds to-day at the bar of public judgment than a thousand such reports as our brother refers to.

It is to the views on jurisprudence, usage, custom, history, and philosophy of Masonry of such writers as Drummond, Vincil, Gurney, and very many others, that Freemasonry is indebted for the high position to which it has attained.

We frankly confess our indebtedness to the learned authors of the Reports, for very much of valuable information. But, alas, all have not the *masonic* age, vast learning and great abilities of Bro. Parvin. This is our first effort in preparing a Report on Correspondence, and we feel full fifty years behind Bro. Parvin in inability to compass the subject. We therefore express opinions with some diffidence, seeking more light in masonry from the "men of might" of the Fraternity. But all the same, we have opinions, and will express them when occasion requires.

We agree with Bro. Parvin in all that he says, in various parts of his report, about the *right of visitation*; and it is strange that any should entertain the opinion that the rights and privileges of a member of a lodge are subordinate to those of a visitor. To his query, (Appendix, page 72.) "Must, then, the right of a member of a lodge to a seat in his own family be set aside, that an outsider * * * may come in to take his place?" we most emphatically

answer, *No!* Otherwise, where would peace and harmony be? Certainly not in the lodge, whose members have no right to say who shall be admitted.

Under review of Kentucky, he treats us to the following information, very interesting to our Grand Jurisdiction. The Grand Master of Kentucky, in his address, alluded to the organization of the Grand Lodge of that State, and asserted that from that source had emanated the Grand Lodges of several of the Middle and Western States, among them Tennessee, Iowa and Missouri.

Bro. Parvin quotes what he says, and then remarks:

When we read this historical introduction we were delighted. We felt we had "struck a lead," and so set to work to "trace the genealogy of Iowa Masonry" up through the line of descent here presented.

What was our surprise to find when we reached Tennessee, which the learned brother claims as the daughter of Kentucky, to find that *not one* of all the eight (8) lodges which united in the organization of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee were the offspring of Kentucky. On the contrary, all of them were chartered by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. Moreover, the Grand Lodge of Kentucky did not have a single lodge in Tennessee at that time. We were provoked, to say the least, and were reminded of a bit of old-time history, related in Matthew, iv:8-9: "And ever since that hour men have been found to put forth claims to other people's rightful claims." This blunder, to use a mild word of Brother Watts, cost us two days of hard labor at a most busy time. Inasmuch as we commenced at the fountain-head, and traced first the history of the Grand Lodge of England, the mother Grand Lodge of the world—notwithstanding the *ignorance* of a host of writers have claimed that Grand Lodges existed earlier—then we turned to Virginia and found that her lodges had sprung from the parent Grand Lodge, while she (Virginia) in turn had constituted the lodges in Kentucky which organized the Grand Lodge of that State. But lo and behold, here we ran across a snag when we found a "chasm unbridged" between Kentucky and Tennessee. Brother Witt reckoned without his host, and we would advise him to read up a little and then revise his history (?) before the issue of another edition. In our efforts to trace *our* history we have corresponded with Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, England, and Scotland, and propose in this year's proceedings to present the result of our inquiries. While the "mistakes" of the Grand Master of Kentucky mislead us and caused much labor and trouble, they had this good effect, his remarks stimulated us to probe the matter to the beginning. And still there are some "missing links" in the "chain of history" relating to the origin of some of the earlier lodges in North Carolina, owing to the destruction or loss of some of the earlier records during the revolutionary war. We have, as all will find who engage in a similar work, the volume of "Masonic Records," 1717-1886, of Brother Lane, of England, a most valuable, invaluable, indeed, help, without which one might long wander in the dark.

Inasmuch as the Grand Lodge of Tennessee did not spring from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, so Missouri, the offspring of Tennessee, and all her other children and grandchildren, have no Kentucky blood in their veins. We regret this, but it can't be helped. Truth is truth, and no fiction can change her unalterable destiny.

From this sketch our home readers in the tracing of our genealogy will see that we have come down through the lines from North Carolina, passing through the Grand Lodges of Tennessee and Missouri; hence our relationship is that of great-grandchild, as are also those of several of the jurisdictions which our good brother has elevated into the rank of grandchildren.

He goes further, and gives us the following valuable historical facts, relating to North Carolina, obtained by his industry and research:

GRAND LODGE OF TENNESSEE.

LODGES IN TENNESSEE (1813), CHARTERED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

St. Tammany Lodge, No. (29) 1, of Tennessee, 1796.

Tennessee Lodge, No. (41) 2, Knoxville, November 30th, 1800. John Sevier, Worshipful Master; James Grant, Senior Warden; George M. Campbell, Junior Warden.

Greenville Lodge, No. (43) 3, Greenville, December 11th, 1801. G. W. Campbell, Worshipful Master; Jenkins Whiteside, Senior Warden; John Rhea, Junior Warden.

Newport Lodge, No. (50) 4, Newport, December 5th, 1806. Henry Stephens, Worshipful Master; Nathaniel Mitchell, Senior Warden; Augustin Jenkins, Junior Warden.

Overton Lodge, No. (51) 5, Rogerville, November 21st, 1807.

King Solomon Lodge, No. (52) 6, Gallatin, December 9th, 1808. John Johnston, Worshipful Master; Andrew Buckham, Senior Warden; John Mitchell, Junior Warden.

Hiram Lodge, No. (55) 7, Franklin, December 11th, 1809. Charles McAlister, Worshipful Master; Guilford Dudley, Senior Warden; George Hulme, jr., Junior Warden.

Cumberland Lodge, No. (60) 8, Nashville, June 24th, 1812. John Overton, Worshipful Master; Lemuel T. Turner, Senior Warden; William P. Anderson, Junior Warden.

Western Star Lodge, No. (Rhea U. D.) 9, Port Royal, November 21st, 1812.

GRAND LODGE OF TENNESSEE—FROM THE RECORDS.

KNOXVILLE, December 27th, A. D. 1813.

In pursuance of a notice (from the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina) to the several lodges in this State, requiring them to assemble, either in person or by their representatives, at this place on this day and proceed in Grand Convention to the choosing of officers and the formation of a Grand Lodge in this State, the following lodges appeared:

Tennessee Lodge, No. 2 (Knoxville)—Brothers George Wilson, Thomas McCorry, John Bright, John Anthony, and William Kelly.

Greenville Lodge, No. 3 (Greenville)—Brother Stephen Brooks.

Newport Lodge, No. 4 (Newport)—Brother Edward Scott.

Overton Lodge, No. 5 (Rogerville)—Brothers John Williams and George Wilson.

King Solomon Lodge, No. 6 (Gallatin)—Brothers John Hall and Abraham K. Shaifer.

Hiram Lodge, No. 7 (Franklin)—Brother Thomas Claiborne.

Cumberland Lodge, No. 8 (Nashville)—Brother Thomas Claiborne.

Western Star Lodge, No. 9 (Port Royal)—Brother William L. Wellin.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECTED.

The Convention then unanimously elected Most Worshipful Thomas Claiborne, Esq., attorney at law and a member of the Grand Assembly from the County of Davidson (let the mug-wumps in Masonry note this), Grand Master, who was installed according to the ancient rights and landmarks.

Brother Edward Scott, of Newport, was elected Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge was then opened on the third degree in due and solemn form.

GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

LODGES IN NORTH CAROLINA (1787), CHARTERED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

A lodge (St. John's) No. —, at Wilmington, in Cape River, in the Province of North Carolina, America, Chartered March —, 1754. England.

Royal White Hart Lodge, No. 403, Halifax, North Carolina, America, August 21st, 1767. England.

Pitt Lodge, No. —, Crown Point, Pitt county. St. John's Grand Lodge, Massachusetts.

St. John's Lodge (2), Newberne.

Royal Edwin Lodge (4), Windsor.

Royal William Lodge, (8), Winton.

Union Lodge, Fayetteville.

Blandford Lodge, Butte county.

Old Cone Lodge, Salisbury.

Unanimity Lodge, Edenton.

Kinston Lodge, No. 3, at ———

Domock Lodge, No. 5, Warrenton.

At this date (June, 1887) we have been unable to learn by what Grand Lodges these nine lodges were chartered.

NORTH CAROLINA—HISTORY.

Our *data* for this sketch is found in the oration delivered before the Grand Lodge at a special communication held at Raleigh, January 14th, 1871, being the centennial anniversary of the *Provincial* Grand Lodge of North Carolina, by Brother Numa F. Reid, D. D., and the address by Brother Eugene S. Martin, upon the occasion of the centennial observances of the organization of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, at its 100th annual communication, at Raleigh, January 12th, 1887. This Grand Lodge has *not* yet re-printed its early records.

In the proceedings of 1871 aforesaid, we find recorded in full the charter issued by the Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort, etc., England, Grand Master, constituting Joseph Montfort Provincial Grand Master of and for America, with full power to constitute Lodges, etc.

Executed at London, January 14th, 1771.

By the Grand Master's command,

CHARLES DILLON, *Deputy Grand Master*.

Witness :

JAMES HASELTINE, *Grand Secretary*.

The Provincial Grand Lodge constituted under this warrant met occasionally at Newbern and Edenton, at which latter place the records were deposited, but destroyed by the British army during the revolutionary war.

Prior to this date "St. John's Grand Lodge at Boston, Mass., had, on October 2d, 1767, made out a dispensation for the R. W. Thomas Cooper, Master of Pitt County Lodge, in North Carolina, constituting him Deputy Grand Master for that province. He, too, was commissioned to congregate the brethren and constitute lodges.

The first lodge constituted under *this* warrant was at Crown Point in Pitt county.

Some lodges were, no doubt, says the orator (Reid), also established under warrants from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. [Brother D. Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, has promised to search the records of those years and furnish all data bearing upon this point.]

From the best evidence at command, *most* of the lodges in the province were organized under the English warrant or charter of Grand Master Beaufort aforesaid.

It is certain that the lodge at Halifax, the residence of the Provincial Grand Master, Montfort, derived its original constitution from this source.

In summing up his conclusions, Brother Reid says that the lodges deriving authority from this English charter composed mostly the convention that assembled in the town of Tarboro in 1787 and *reorganized* the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. It is also no doubt true that that convention also embraced lodges formed under warrants from Scotland (for which we await the report of Bro. Lyon), and also those deriving authority from St. John's Grand Lodge, at Boston. [The early proceedings of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge are now being printed, when this fact, too, will no doubt be made more evident.]

On the 9th of December, 1787, a convention of a majority of the several lodges in existence in North Carolina was held at Tarboro for the purpose of reorganizing the Grand Lodge, when delegates from the following lodges attended:

Unanimity Lodge, No. . . , Edenton; St. John's Lodge, No. 2, New Berne; Royal Edwin Lodge, No. 4, Windsor; Royal White Hart Lodge, No. 403, Halifax; Royal William Lodge, No. 8, Winton; Union Lodge, No. . . , Fayetteville; Blandford Lodge, No. . . , Butte county; Old Cone Lodge, No. . . , Salisbury; and on the 11th delegates appeared from Kinston Lodge, No. 3, at -----, viz: Richard Caswell, James Glasgow, and William Randall. Delegates from Domock Lodge, No. 5, Warrenton, were refused admission on the ground that the lodge was not properly constituted.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECTED.

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina then organized, elected Samuel Johnson, Grand Master; James Glasgow, Grand Secretary.

We trust that Grand Secretary Bain will in his next proceedings supply the hiatus, and give us the proceedings of that convention, at least.

We thank Bro. Parvin for thus vindicating the claims of "The Old North State" so handsomely and successfully, and on behalf of our Grand Lodge extend to him her kindest maternal blessings, rejoiced to know that she has so true and devoted a champion as Bro. Parvin—so intelligent and accomplished a great-grand-daughter as the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

Reviewing Nebraska, Bro. Parvin says, and we agree with him:

In a case where a lodge had lost its charter by fire, the Grand Master granted them a special dispensation authorizing them to continue their labors and exercise their powers as a chartered lodge until the meeting of the Grand Lodge. To our mind this is a rather strange mode of procedure. The granting of the charter by the Grand Lodge vested in that lodge the rights and prerogatives of a chartered lodge, and the loss of that instrument, either by fire or theft, did not and cannot deprive the lodge of its vested rights. All that would have been necessary upon its loss would have been to have ordered the Grand Secretary promptly to have issued a duplicate charter. In the case cited, suppose the Grand Lodge refused to issue them a new charter, would the lodge thereby cease to exist? We hold not. The lodge could only cease to exist as such by the arrest of its charter by the Grand Lodge.

And we also agree with him "that a Grand Master cannot suspend the Master of a Lodge from all the rights, privileges and benefits of Masonry, though he may suspend him from the functions of his office." We have always thought that a mason could be deprived of his rights and character only for cause, after a lawful trial and conviction.

North Carolina (1886) receives his kindly attention, but he makes two egregious errors, and inadvertently places our Grand Lodge in a false position. He says :

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina, we are surprised to learn, gives its approval to co-operative insurance companies. Hands off is the better policy. No good can result—on the contrary, much evil may, and we fear will, result from Grand Lodge endorsement of these legal business matters.

This is all a mistake, for the Grand Lodge of North Carolina distinctly refused to give its approval to co-operative insurance companies. Grand Master Busbee in his address condemned it, and the record is : “ *The motion to approve was not adopted.*”

Again, he says :

We find a very grave error in the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence. A question was asked and referred to this committee for solution : “ Can *an accuser*, on the trial of a brother for unmasonic conduct, or any other charge, appeal from the decision of the lodge on a general verdict of not guilty ? ” The committee report that upon an examination of the laws of sister jurisdictions embodying this question they find that the following jurisdictions unqualifiedly recognize the right of *the accuser* to appeal from any verdict of the subordinate lodge to the Grand Lodge : Iowa, Missouri, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, California, and Kentucky. We beg to disabuse the brother's mind and to correct his history. The Grand Lodge of Iowa never did, does not now, and we trust never will, embody such a ruling in its laws. On the contrary, it has ever held directly to the contrary. It does not, for the best of reasons, permit an accuser to appeal to the Grand Lodge from the verdict of *not guilty*. We have discussed this subject until it has become a hackneyed theme, and yet every now and then it turns up and crops out again. This is a subject wholly of legislation. Neither usage or custom has anything to do with it. Each Grand Lodge has, and of right ought to establish, its own rules upon this subject. The “ old law ” to which the opponents of the Iowa law refer, so far from sustaining them, directly negative their views, in that it does *not* vest the right of appeal in the accuser from a sentence of “ not guilty. ” The right of appeal is vested in the guilty when sentence is one of guilt.

Now, Bro. Parvin, if you will *carefully* examine our Proceedings, (1886), which you are reviewing, pages 31 and 32, you will see that the remark about the “ laws of sister jurisdictions, ” &c., which you quote, occur in the minority report of one member of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which was not adopted. On the contrary, the report of the majority of the committee was adopted, which declares, “ that in no case from a general verdict of not guilty can an accuser or any Master Mason take an appeal to the Grand Lodge. ” Moreover, the same point came again before the Grand Lodge, at its communication of 1887, and the unanimous report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, declaring the same opinion, was adopted. Proceedings 1887, page 47.

So you see, Bro. Parvin, “ a very grave error, ” as you put it, occurred in your report and not in that of our Committee on Jurisprudence. We are pleased to know that the Grand Lodge of North Carolina is in accord with the Grand Lodge of Iowa and yourself, as it has, on this point, been severely criticised by Bro. Drummond and the Committee on Correspondence of Texas.

Bro. Parvin has, it seems, just learned that the Grand Master has a private secretary, and expresses surprise thereat. Well, the private secretary finds a plenty to do, notwithstanding the labors of a very industrious Grand Master. Being, besides, *ex-officio* a *working* member of the Committee on Correspondence, without the luxury of a stenographer, whice Bro. Parvin enjoys, he finds the position no sinecure.

We would like to give more time to this interesting report, but, like poor Joe in "Bleak House," we must "move on."

Bro. Edwin C. Blackmar elected Grand Master, and the Grand Secretary re-elected.

KANSAS—1887.

The thirty-first Annual Communication was held at Atchison on February 16, 1887, Grand Master Silas E. Sheldon presiding, 191 lodges out of 268 being represented. The Grand Master's address is a full and able exposition of matters that came under his official notice, and presents some very valuable thoughts and opinions on several subjects. Many dispensations to organize new lodges and for other purposes were granted—and he tells us of many corner stones laid in various places. In speaking of "Public Installations," he says:

After the installation, short addresses were made by prominent members of the Order, at the conclusion of which a bountiful repast was announced, which had been prepared by the ladies, which was enjoyed by all, and the evening's entertainment closed with a general social and good time. Would it not be a good plan for us to pay more attention to the social features of our Order, to gather more frequently our families and friends, to lay aside for a time the stiff, formal conventionalities of modern society, with the absorbing cares of every day life, that tend so much to make us selfish, and thus have opportunity to become better acquainted with each other?

The practice, I feel quite sure, would tend to promote a kinder, a more genial and fraternal feeling among the brethren, and inspire them to perform their respective duties with the zealous enthusiasm becoming freemasons.

Many of the difficulties and discords arising in lodges grow out of the fact that the members do not know one another; they have not learned each other's peculiarities as they would do, if the opportunity were more frequently afforded them for a more free and intimate acquaintance. I believe that if the officers of every lodge would encourage a more intimate acquaintance among the members and their families, the result would be increased prosperity and harmony in every lodge throughout the jurisdiction.

And of "Masonic Trials:"

If there is one thing above another that I have endeavored during my administration to prevent and avoid among lodges and brethren, it is masonic trials, and I most sincerely and devoutly wish that the Masons of Kansas would apply themselves to the task of endeavoring to prevent and avoid instead of encouraging them. It can only be done in one way, and that is for each and every individual Mason doing his whole duty to his GOD, his brother and himself.

A great majority of these so-called masonic trials could be avoided if the

Masters and older and better informed members of the lodge would only do their duty, and whenever differences arise between the brethren, bring them together and let them reason as brethren should, and do so in the true spirit of masonry, bearing ever in mind the solemn obligations they have assumed and the duties which they owe to each other and to the fraternity.

Scarcely a week passes by that the Grand Master is not appealed to by some brother who feels himself sorely aggrieved by the action of some officer or member of his lodge, and he desires to know what his "legal rights" are in the premises. He does not ask what his masonic duties are; he does not stop to consider what relations exist between him and his lodge or his brethren; he seems to forget entirely his obligations to his brethren and the Order, as if no relations existed between him and his brethren, other than those which exist and are known and observed by the world at large.

In nearly all these cases I have been able to settle differences without resorting to a masonic trial by simply bringing these disaffected brethren together, reminding and admonishing them of their duty as Masons to one another, and counselling each of them that it is his duty to act honorably towards his brother, and following the injunction of the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as ye would have them do unto you." And thus good advice and wise counsel prevails and almost universally a settlement was effected, and each went away feeling better by having been saved the humiliation and disgrace of a masonic trial, which always leaves a sting behind, no matter how it terminates.

Brethren, if we would all do our duty as Masons, if we would be governed by the sublime and wholesome teachings of our Order, if we would practice out of the lodge those precepts that we are taught in it, if we would take as the rule and guide of our actions toward our brethren *The Golden Rule*, there would never again be a so-called masonic trial in any lodge in this jurisdiction, and we could erase from our Constitution and By-Laws our whole Code of "Trials and Punishments," and peace and harmony would prevail in every lodge, and brotherly love would rule in every Mason's heart.

I wish that every brother could be brought to realize these facts, and realizing them be constrained to practice them; then would masonry be what it should be, and what it was intended to be, a bright and shining light in the world and a blessing to mankind.

The Grand Lodge was entertained by a banquet given by the Masons of Atchison and their ladies, at which M. W. Bro. Owen A. Basset, P. G. M., Grand Orator, delivered a most interesting and eloquent address, "What is Freemasonry?" We would like to quote fully, but must confine ourselves to the following extract:

In the conclusions arrived at by the Councils of Infinite Wisdom, we learn that it was determined that man should be created in the image of God, and that this creature, man, should devote his life and service to his Maker. In the denial to DAVID to build a house unto the LORD, we are reminded that he who would undertake any great work must enter thereon with clean hands, with good intent, and with conscious probity, if he hopes to gain therefor the approval of just men, and therein to serve Him for whose service all were created.

In the promise of DAVID we see the sublime conception in the creation of man, the creation of a being endowed with the faculty of acquiring knowledge, of transmitting this knowledge to posterity, whereby each succeeding generation may acquire a higher degree of intelligence. This divine promise, fulfilled in the person of SOLOMON, is an exemplification of advancement in art, science, and literature, and the unrivalled course of SOLOMON's prosperity illustrates the changed condition of man, from his rude and barbarous state, to a culti-

vated and enlightened condition, and is further illustrative of a higher order of civilization.

In the death of DAVID, and the succession of SOLOMON, we note the changed condition from turbulence to quietude, from war to peace, from which we learn the important lesson, that brotherly love is dependent on harmony, that harmony which can exist only by the aid of a spirit of compromise, the spirit of tolerance and forbearance, which submits to mediation every difference, and which was happily illustrated in a convention between the two great English speaking nations (a convention presided over by an eminent Mason), wherein by mutual concessions important matters of difference were harmoniously settled, whereby peace obtained a victory more renowned than a victory of war.

In the founding of the temple, the creation of the earth, and all things therein contained is represented; in its curious wormanship it illustrates the symmetry of Nature's handiwork, and the precision and infallibility of Nature's laws, and in its location, being erected on hallowed ground, thrice hallowed by the special manifestations of Deity, we are reminded that the protecting care of Divine Providence is over us, and around us on every side. Who could have stood within the temple's porch without feeling the influence of these hallowed associations? From this also the Mason may draw an instructive lesson, that he should surround his work with the best influences, and when he opens the portals of his lodge to strangers, and introduces them among the workmen, he should take care that they too, after serving their apprenticeship and becoming master workmen, shall not only faithfully perform their duties, but by the maintenance of their own good standing add something to the aggregate character of masonry for well doing.

The Report on Correspondence is presented by Grand Secretary John H. Brown, and is a most valuable discussion of the Proceedings of other Grand Jurisdictions. The selections are copious and interesting, and the comments thereon at all times judicious and instructive. North Carolina (1886) receives extensive and fraternal attention and extracts are made from Grand Master Busbee's address and other parts of the Proceedings.

We note the following:

The Orphan's Asylum at Oxford came in for a good share of the Grand Master's attention, and he made a strong and earnest appeal for it.

Unfortunately, this institution has for years been a burden upon the Craft in North Carolina. They have borne the burden as good men and Masons should ever do, and never wearied in well doing, and to-day they have the proud satisfaction of knowing that there are living witnesses to prove the good they have accomplished in their endeavors to provide for the wards left in their charge.

We note the following resolution, which was received and referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, the sale of spirituous liquors is a fruitful source of evil, and all masonic offences arising in connection therewith should be fearlessly investigated and punished by the subordinate lodges in which they occur; but the mere fact that a Mason is engaged in the sale of liquor does not in itself subject the person selling to masonic charges.

The absence of any further action on this resolution leads us to conclude that it is possible the chairman of the Jurisprudence Committee is an ex-member of the Legislature; if so, we can account for its absence.

This is the way the Grand Lodge of North Carolina treats the unfortunate members who have lost their standing by reason of suspension for non-payment of dues:

A member shall not be excluded from his lodge without notice having been served on him to appear and show cause for the delinquency.

Exclusion from a lodge for non-payment of dues does not impair the standing of a member with the fraternity at large, other than placing him in a non-affiliated relation.

A member excluded for non-payment of dues can be re-instated by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting of the lodge, upon payment by said member of the amount due at the time of the exclusion: *Provided*, whenever it is apparent to the satisfaction of the lodge that such member is entirely unable to pay such indebtedness, the lodge may, in its discretion, remit the amount.

The first paragraph is a trifle too liberal and will be subject to abuse. We are opposed to wilful negligence to pay dues, or, in other words, a brother who is abundantly able to pay his dues and neglects or refuses to pay, should be compelled to do so or lose his standing as a Mason.

While we copy from our brother's remarks, we do not accept the statement that our Orphan Asylum is a *burden* upon us.

Bro. Henry C. Cook elected Grand Master and the Grand Secretary re-elected.

MAINE—1887.

The sixty-eighth Annual Communication at Portland, May 3d, 1887, was opened in ample form by Grand Master Fessenden I. Day.

The address of the Grand Master is interesting, and informs us that relations with other Grand Jurisdictions are pleasant; that the initiations show a decided increase, and that the subordinate lodges had a fair amount of work.

Several special sessions of the Grand Lodge were held, mostly for constituting new lodges, and several dispensations were granted—none of them to form new lodges. The subject of *non-payment of dues* is a trouble there as elsewhere, and the Grand Master suggests a remedy which we hope, but do not think, will cure the evil. As long as Grand Lodges endeavor to *favor the delinquents*, as some Grand Lodges have done, by enabling them to drop out of the lodges and come back easily, by a *majority vote*, whenever they please, we may expect to have a large number of unworthy delinquents. *Heroic* treatment may do—mild remedies never. We will allude again to this further on.

The Grand Master mentions among the many social masonic events of the year, the most notable was the celebration of the 125th anniversary of the introduction of Masonry into Maine, held under the auspices of Portland Lodge, No. 1, which occasion was also the 125th anniversary of the granting of the charter under which Portland Lodge was finally constituted. All hail to our very venerable sister!

“ Long may she stand and every blast defy,
Till Time's last whirlwind sweeps the vaulted sky.”

Number of Masons reported as on the rolls, 20,218.

The Proceedings relate mostly to local matters, though we note *with consid-*

erable surprise, the introduction of the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence :

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer be instructed to furnish the Grand Lodge with a copy of the work for each masonic district in this jurisdiction, to be placed in the hands of each District Deputy Grand Master, under the same regulations as other property of the Grand Lodge.

And with still more surprise the report of the Committee, Bro. Drummond being chairman, the last paragraph of which is :

While they would not object to the deposit in the archives of the Grand Lodge of a guide to the work, they believe that the present mode of disseminating it is contrary to the ancient rules of the fraternity, as it is substantially equivalent to publishing it to the world.

Is not the deposit anywhere of a *guide to the work* contrary to the ancient rules of the fraternity and a violation of obligation ? The report was adopted.

The Report on Correspondence, though signed by the Committee, we boldly assert is from the pen of that *facile princeps* of reporters, Bro. Drummond, for he says so on page 717 : “ We (*id est* Bro. D.) believe that since 1865 (inc.) we must father everything in the report of the Maine Committee on Correspondence.” And the ability exhibited in the report is proof enough to convict. We have read every word with pleasure and profit, and most generally find ourselves in accord with our learned brother. In one or two matters we differ ; for instance, upon the right of an accuser to appeal from a general verdict of acquittal—he holding that the right exists, and we the contrary.

North Carolina (1887) receives very kindly attention at his hands. Grand Master Busbee’s address is praised, and his remarks on the “ Social Features of Masonry ” copied “ entire as deserving serious consideration in all jurisdictions.”

Bro. Drummond further says :

The Grand Secretary gives a brief history of the formation of the Grand Lodge in 1787 ; but leaves the most for the Grand Orator, Bro. Eugene S. Martin, who delivered an exceedingly interesting public address in the hall of the House of Representatives.

At the preceding session, the Grand Lodge changed the rule formerly existing, so that members “ dropped for non-payment of dues ” may be restored by a *majority* vote instead of a *unanimous* vote. Some of the lodges protested against it, and the Committee on Jurisprudence recommended the restoration of the old law ; but the Grand Lodge refused to do so, the vote being yeas 110, nays 151. As we understand that members are dropped for non-payment of dues *without trial*, we do not think there is force in the objections of the protesting lodges : if, however, a member is deprived of membership for any cause, *after due trial*, he should be restored only upon petition and by unanimous vote.

In regard to the last paragraph quoted above, we have this to say : Our Code provides for a trial of every member charged with non-payment of dues before

he can be excluded, and therefore Bro. Drummond and the Committee on Jurisprudence are in accord.

Every member of that committee endorsed most emphatically every word contained in the Protest of the Lodges, and the chairman of that committee is still of the opinion that the edict of the Grand Lodge, providing that members dropped for non-payment of dues may be restored by a *majority vote*, is a violation of the ancient and immemorial laws, customs and usages of Masonry—destructive of the *inherent right* and *privilege* of the individual Mason to select his fellows, and an innovation which it is not in the power of the Grand Lodge or “of any man, or body of men, to make.” But apart from the *law* in the case, look at the *injustice* of such an act. Why a *majority* instead of a *unanimous vote*, if not to provide a more easy return to membership of those who have once failed in their duties to their fellow-members? And why should the wishes and objections of a minority, *perhaps a very large minority* (not to say one member), of a lodge be totally ignored, that a *delinquent*, who has already shown himself unworthy and is objectionable to them, may be admitted? Why are the members of a lodge, faithfully performing their duties, not as much entitled to consideration as the delinquent seeking admission who has forfeited his membership by willful failure to perform his? For instance, 31 members of a lodge are present, when one, dropped for non-payment of dues, applies for restoration. Sixteen vote to admit, and 15 against it—and in he comes against the wishes of 15 good and faithful members. If that is not calculated, in the words of the Ancient Constitution, “to spoil their harmony or hinder their freedom, or even break and disperse the lodge,” then nothing is. Some of the lodges have already felt the evil effects of it, and the evil will spread.

The Report on Correspondence, by Bros. Bain and Cowan, is pronounced “very creditable to its authors.”

We leave this able reporter with regret.

Bro. Frank E. Sleeper elected Grand Master ; Grand Secretary re-elected.

MANITOBA—1887.

The twelfth Annual Communication was held at the city of Winnipeg on the 9th of February, 1887, and opened in ample form by Grand Master Alfred Pearson. From the address of the Grand Master and the reports of other officers it is pleasant to note that the condition of masonry in this grand jurisdiction is prosperous.

There is no report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Bro. Thomas Clark was elected Grand Master and the Grand Secretary re-elected.

MARYLAND—1886.

The one hundredth Annual Communication convened at Baltimore, on November 16th, 1886, and the Grand Lodge was opened in due form by the R.

W. Deputy Grand Master George L. McCahan, eighty lodges being represented. The M. W. Grand Master Thomas J. Shryock was then received with the grand honors and delivered an interesting address, in which he alluded to the progress of masonry in that grand jurisdiction and the work under his administration.

Bro. J. Morrison Harriss, by invitation, delivered a most eloquent and instructive address suitable to the occasion.

No report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Bro. Thomas J. Shryock was re-elected Grand Master and Bro. Jacob B. Medairy Grand Secretary.

The Proceedings are embellished by a fine steel engraving of Bro. Medairy.

MARYLAND—1887.

The Centennial Volume is before us and is an imposing and highly ornamented book.

The two hundredth and first stated Communication begun at Baltimore, May 8th, 1887, and being opened in due form by the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Master Thomas J. Shryock was received with the grand honors, and delivered his address announcing a "welcome to our Centennial Communication." The proceedings were short, as all were probably anxious to enter upon the celebration of the Centennial.

The greater part of the volume is taken up with the description of the Celebration of the Centennial of the Grand Lodge, organized on the 17th of April, 1787, which was done in magnificent style. The oration by Bro. John M. Carter, P. G. M., is a most valuable historical document. The banquet and the toasts and speeches are all excellent and were no doubt greatly enjoyed by all present.

Having just celebrated our own Centennial we know what an enjoyable occasion it is and we extend to our sister of Maryland our sincere and fraternal congratulations.

The report on Correspondence is by Bro. E. T. Schultz and covers 156 pages—all good reading with excellent extracts from the reports of other Grand Lodges and comments thereon.

We have space for only two extracts from Bro. Schultz's report.

In regard to Public Processions he disagrees with Bro. Vaux, of Pennsylvania, and says, commenting upon the new Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Canada :

Forms to be used at the ceremonies of laying foundation stones, etc., were also submitted, one portion of which we regard as improper: that is, *calling off the Lodge*. We hold that the laying of foundation stones, unveiling of monuments, dedication of halls, the burial of a brother, and in fact, any other duty which a Lodge may properly perform in public, is *Masonic labor*, and therefore cannot be performed while the craft are at *refreshment*.

And upon the question whether a Lodge can be regularly opened in the ab-

sence of the Master and Wardens, he says, in answer to a contrary opinion of Bro. Waite, of New Hampshire, and Bro. Drummond, of Maine :

We have always held that in the absence of the Master and Wardens a lodge cannot legally be opened. The Charter is in their custody alone, and if they are not present, the Charter is not, and without it the Lodge cannot be opened. We believe that even the Grand Master cannot preside over the *regular transactions* of a Lodge in the absence of all the officers. If he does, he virtually suspends the Charter, which, of course, he has a right to do, and should do, if the officers habitually absent themselves, and deliver the Charter to others who will attend to their duties.

We hold with Bro. Schultz that the Master or one of the Wardens *must* be present, and did not think there was or could be any difference of opinion about it. As to what he says about the power of the Grand Master we are not so clear.

North Carolina not noticed in report.

MASSACHUSETTS—1886.

The one hundred and fifty-third Annual Communication was held at Boston, December 8th, 1886, and opened in ample form by Grand Master A. H. Howland, jr. The Grand Master's address gives evidence that his office is amply supplied with work and makes a constant demand upon his time.

Henry Endicott was elected Grand Master and installed at a stated Communication, held on December 28th, 1886, at which was celebrated the Feast of St. John the Evangelist. The Proceedings give an account of this feast at which "206 brethren sat down at the bountifully supplied tables and seemed to discuss with great gusto the various subjects set before them ;" with the various toasts proposed and the replies thereto.

The Grand Secretary was re-elected.

The Proceedings of a Special Communication, February 22d, 1887, and a Quarterly Communication, March 9th, 1887, are also before us, the Special Communication being called to dedicate the new masonic apartments of Mount Vernon Lodge.

Special Communication, June 28th, 1887, in the town of Winchester, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the Town Hall and Public Library Building.

Quarterly Communication, September 14th, 1887. Not much business was introduced.

MINNESOTA—1887.

The thirty-fourth Annual Communication began in St. Paul, January 11th, 1887, and was opened in ample form by Grand Master R. H. Gove.

The address of the Grand Master is long and discusses a variety of subjects,

but is remarkably able. A great deal of it we would like to quote in full, but can only take the following. He says:

THE RIGHT OF AVOUCHMENT.

The most unskilled Mason is the first on his feet to say "I vouch for the brother." I personally know of a brother who, if his salvation depended upon it, could not distinguish a Mason from a Knight of the Sun, avouches for more Masons than all the other members of the lodge, and it is a large one. When inquired of, by the Master, if he had ever sat with the person vouched for, answered "No." Were you present with a number of brethren having the charter of a warranted lodge when he was examined and pronounced to be a brother? Answered "No." When asked how he could avouch for the visitor, how he knew him to be a Mason, answered: "He told me he was a Mason." This matter having been brought to my attention, I will venture to suggest a few simple rules that I think ought to be a guide in this right:

RULES.—If you have ever sat with a person in a regular warranted lodge in the third degree, or if some well-known Mason in the presence and hearing of the person declares to you that he has sat with him in a lodge of Master Masons, or, if you personally examined him, or was present when he was examined under special authority from the Master or Wardens acting as Master, and on such examination he was found to be a Mason, and was not under the sentence of suspension or expulsion and was in communication with some regular lodge under a jurisdiction with which we have correspondence, and fraternal relations, you may lawfully avouch for him, but not otherwise. It is necessary that you know the person vouching to be a Master Mason himself.

The Deacons nor the Worshipful Master should take the avouchment of any but well-skilled brethren, and not too forward to avouch. Our sanctuary is too sacred to be invaded through fraud, and assisted by ignorance. Private examinations are not to be encouraged, except in cases of absolute necessity, and then only with the prescribed form and by those well skilled in the art.

We most emphatically endorse every word.

Twelve decisions are reported, in all of which we concur except the second, which we quote:

"Is it necessary when a lodge has two stated communications a month to let a petition lay over a full month before the lodge can ballot upon it, or can the committee, if they wish, report at the next regular stated communication?"

Answer—It is not necessary for the petition to lay over a whole month after reference unless your by-laws so provide, and the committee can and ought to report at the next regular communication at the furthest, unless for special reasons they ask further time and the request is granted.

What do you do with section V of "General Regulations" of 1721, which require *one month's notice*, &c.? True, a dispensation may be granted to change the time, for cause shown.

He reports some queer doings of certain lodges in his jurisdiction which deserved and received summary treatment.

The Report on Correspondence is by Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, Grand Secretary, and is interesting, though we regret that he so seldom expresses any opinion of his own upon the extracts he makes from other proceedings and reports.

Under the head of Wisconsin, he extracts the following:

We are gratified to note that in Wisconsin we have never experienced so bitter a state of feeling as existed in New York, wherein this growing evil was so manifest, and to which the Grand Master's able address alludes. We had occasion, when Grand Master of Wisconsin, after observing the manipulation of wire-pullers to be elected, or to aid in the election of some particular one to some particular office in the Grand Lodge, to speak our mind plainly upon this political practice, and which seemed foreign to masonic principle. We are, therefore, pleased that masonic writers throughout the masonic world, quoting our words, have expressed themselves, in language not to be misunderstood, in disapprobation of this growing unmasonic business of rank electioneering in Grand Lodge. It is true that every Mason should have an ambition to rise in the ranks—aye, to mount the top round of the masonic ladder, where his usefulness to the craft is obvious; but when this is sought to be done by trickery and intrigue, when the want of qualification for such an elevated position is manifest, then every true Mason should “put a head on it” at once. The place should seek the man, and not the man the place.

And then says:

We opine that there is more than one Grand Lodge that is drifting away from the ancient moorings. In the old times, age, service, knowledge and familiarity with the old customs and usages of the craft were the criterion, but of late the practices of the politician and political conventions are more in vogue, regardless of the interests of the fraternity so long as ambition is gratified.

Parties should be selected for office, not because they can parrot-like, glibly rehearse the rituals that is measurably necessary, but because of a knowledge of the constitutions, laws, customs, usages, and of ceremonials, both public and private.

This great evil of electioneering for masonic office is progressing. How often do we find parties, upon their first or second appearance in a Grand Body, resorting to all the sinuosities of the scheming politician to gratify ambition, or to advance the interest of a friend; vituperation and even slander is resorted to to accomplish unholy purposes.

Vituperation and slander are punishable by our laws, but when clothed with “Don't say anything about this,” “I tell you on the square,” how dastardly it becomes!

We regret to say there is too much truth in what Bro. Pierson says, and alas it has come under our own observation. *Masonic politicians* are a curse to the Order, and will do more to destroy its high toned moral sentiments and fundamental principles than any class of persons in it. To carry their point and make themselves prominent they decry the old landmarks, ancient traditions, laws and regulations, and proclaim masonry to be a *progressive* institution, and declare it necessary to make the laws conform to the present demands of the age and society, whether they override and destroy the ancient fundamental laws, customs and usages or not. What is the *past* to them? They know it not, and therefore have no veneration for it.

North Carolina receives a very pleasing notice.

The proceedings are embellished with likenesses of Bros. James C. Braden, Grand Master 1876-1877, and Edward W. Durant, Grand Master 1877-1878.

Bro. John H. Brown elected Grand Master. Grand Secretary re-elected.

MISSISSIPPI—1887.

The sixty-ninth Annual Communication was held at Jackson, on February 9th, 1887, and opened in ample form by Grand Master B. T. Kimbrough.

The Grand Master's address is very interesting, treating of a variety of subjects well worthy of attention. Among the distinguished dead he mentions "two very prominent for their zeal, ability and usefulness, Bro. T. N. Martin, Junior Grand Warden in 1864, and Rev. Bro. H. T. Johnson, Grand Chaplain, 1877," *both from North Carolina*. There are several "decisions" reported which seem to be in accordance with the law in this jurisdiction, except the 1st and 4th :

1st. That three may close a Lodge in 3d Degree, when all the members but three have left the hall before closing.

4th. That a candidate with the index finger of the right hand dislocated, backwards at the "metacarpo-phalangeal articulation," and shortened about $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch, still capable of some motion, and with some stiffness of the second finger, is eligible to the Degrees of Masonry.

We also extract from the address the following remarks upon "General Masonic Congress" and "Official Rotation" :

In November last, Most Worshipful R. H. Gove, Grand Master of Iowa, asked me if I favored a General Congress for consultation and advice on subjects of general interest to the whole Craft, wherever dispersed. I replied that I should be opposed to it, if it proposed to interfere with States Rights, and added, if it did not propose such interference at first, I suspected it would do so after a while. Late in December, Bro. Gove again wrote, expressing the opinion I was overly-sensitive on the subject of States Rights, and reminded me that his question implied that the Congress was to have only advisory power. He concluded by saying that most of the Grand Masters heard from were in favor of it, and he felt warranted in saying that one would be called of all present and Past Grand Masters of the "fifty-five jurisdictions with which we are in correspondence" to assemble in Chicago in June next, in which he hoped Mississippi would be represented. Bro. Gove impressed me as a zealous Mason and as one desiring only good for the Craft. In spite, however, of his assurance, I have little doubt that it will only be a question of time, should a General Congress be formed, when it will assume to control all the States. I have deemed the matter of sufficient importance to be brought to your attention, for such action as you may think proper.

In concluding under "Decisions," I referred to what I there called the doubtful policy of official rotation, as practiced by this Grand Lodge and many other Masonic bodies. This policy, or custom, does not allow the election of a Grand Master from the floor, nor does it at all leave the members of the Grand Lodge to the free exercise of their judgment in the selection of Grand Master, for it is now the unwritten law, that the Junior Grand Warden must go regularly up by Senior Warden to the station of Grand Master; and a failure to allow him to do so would be considered a reproach. This custom may have originated in the idea that serving in the Warden's stations gives special fitness for the Grand Master's. This I doubt. But if it does, serving as Grand Master gives more special fitness to succeed himself. This custom is very different in its reasons and workings from the law of Subordinate Lodges that requires the W.

M. to have been a Warden. I am not sure that even that works well. But there the Warden must fit himself for the duties of W. M., for he may have to preside in his stead at any meeting of the Lodge, and in that way he often gets some experience as W. M. But not so here. Here the Grand Master's Deputy first succeeds to the chief office in case of vacancy. Again, the W. M. does not have to give place each year to his succeeding Warden, but generally, when a fit man is chosen W. M., he holds for several years. Why not so with Grand Master?

The custom of turning out your Grand Master each year is not, in my opinion, for the best interest of the Order. We act with much better judgment in the selection of Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer; they have succeeded themselves for eighteen or twenty years on account of special fitness. But we have degraded the office of Grand Master, the executive head of the Grand Lodge, with the idea it matters not so much who fills it; while really it has more power for good or evil than all others combined. Year by year we take for that office a new man, often of moderate knowledge of Masonic law, and always without experience. We take him, not because really the fittest man for the place, not for the vigor or ability with which we expect him to discharge the duties of his office, but in mere obedience to a weak custom—because he is next in the line of promotion. To be so chosen Grand Master, gives but little honor to the official, and it may sometime happen, less to the Craft. We have, in this, removed the ancient landmarks which our fathers had set. Let us return, in a measure, to the days of Quitman, who served the Grand Lodge for twelve successive years as Grand Master, and quit then because he refused to serve longer. While this is a day of progress, yet in some things our fathers were wiser than we.

Lengthy reports from the Committee on Law and Jurisprudence are set forth containing many decisions. The following is of general interest:

Question. In the XVth of the charges assented to by the Master elect of a Lodge previous to his installation, he is required to promise that "no visitors shall be received into your Lodge without due examination and producing proper vouchers of their having been initiated in a regular Lodge. What is meant by "proper vouchers?"

Answer. The Chairman is free to confess that he does not know, and he has never seen any one who did know. In practice it would frequently be impracticable for a man to produce any sort of a voucher as to the regularity of the Lodge in which he was initiated, unless he had always remained a member of that Lodge, in which event he might carry with him a diploma, authenticated by the Grand Secretary of the jurisdiction; but if he has dimitted from the Lodge in which he was initiated, he was required to surrender his certificate of dismission when he petitioned for admission into the Lodge of his present membership; if he procures a new diploma its Grand Lodge certifies to the character of the Lodge in which he is at the time a member. One of our number thinks that this producing proper vouchers "means satisfying the committee that he is a Mason in good standing in addition to his having stood a satisfactory examination." The other member thinks that "in practice it means something showing that the Mason who has stood the test of an examination has a right to visit the Lodge." Both of these answers are about as vague and indefinite as they well could be made, the fact being that this Committee is "from one end to the other" "stumped," and it might as well "own the corn."

Reports from the Representatives near other Grand Lodges appear also. Among them one from Bro. H. H. Munson, P. G. M., Representative near the

Grand Lodge of North Carolina, reporting the Centennial Communication. Among other things he says :

Our Grand Lodge adopted a resolution restoring, or rather directing Lodges to restore back into membership upon a majority vote, those excluded by reason of being dropped from the rolls for non-payment of dues. Until the last year in some of the Lodges such restoration could only be affected by a unanimous ballot. In some Lodges, simply paying back dues restores without a ballot, and it was with a desire to unanimity, that a compromise upon the above basis was affected. In my Lodge, St. John's, No. 1, we hold that a unanimous ballot only can restore to membership, no matter by what means a brother has lost such membership—that this matter is an inherent right belonging to every subordinate Lodge, and that the Grand Lodge has traveled out of its path of duty when it prescribed a different mode of procedure. I should very much like to know the position of your Grand Lodge upon this important matter.

To which query, the Grand Secretary replies in the following:

NOTE—The *law* of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi is, that “a member so suspended shall be re-instated upon the payment of dues which had accrued at the time of his suspension, and an entry of his re-instatement shall be made on the minutes.” When a member incurs the penalty of suspension for non-payment of dues, the Lodge sometimes suspends, by a majority vote ; but the *custom* is to drop from the roll, without action of the Lodge—an illegal procedure. When a suspended member pays arrearages as above, re-instatement is consummated without action of the Lodge. The Secretary simply notes re-instatement on the minutes.

The Report on Correspondence is submitted by Bro. A. H. Barkley, and is a lively, brisk, crisp and interesting review of the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges. North Carolina (1886) receives a very liberal share of fraternal attention, and we make the following extracts:

The Grand Master reports that they had tried Masonic Lecturers, a journalist, a congressman, and had been marvelously unfortunate, for each and all had failed to give them a report on Correspondence.

He now recommends the appointment of the Grand Secretary on the Committee, hoping, thereby, to get a report for next year. Brethren, don't be discouraged—you will find a man after awhile who will do you efficient service.

Brother Grand Secretary and H. M. Cowan were subsequently appointed as Committee on Correspondence; and now, brethren, we shall expect to hear from you. You owe it to yourselves, to the Craft at large, to your own Grand Lodge. We read your proceedings with interest and review them with pleasure, and dislike exceedingly to write, “No report on Correspondence.” We hope for better things in the near future.

We thank you for your kind and fraternal expressions, and hope that what we have done will meet your approbation and in some measure supply the deficiency of “No Report on Correspondence.”

Bro. E. George DeLap elected Grand Master and the Grand Secretary re-elected.

MISSOURI—1887.

The sixty-seventh Annual Communication at St. Louis, October 11th, 1887, opened in ample form by Grand Master George R. Hunt.

The Grand Master's address is a plain presentation of affairs.

He presented this "Important Question":

A Brother of promise and character among us requests me to consider a certain question, which I gladly refer to you, hoping that your wisdom and kindness will decide a point which has perplexed many, viz: A Master Mason becomes addicted to strong drink until his life is a reproach to Masonry, and before he is dealt with by the Lodge *he dies*. Now he is technically in "good standing." Does this fact render it imperative that the Lodge shall accord to him the honors of Masonry, and, before the eyes of the world that understand his fallen and debauched condition, perform about the grave the beautiful and solemn rites of the Order? For the sake of many I ask that you will formulate an answer to this question.

The question being referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, they made the following report, which was adopted:

The question is submitted of the right to Masonic burial of a member who dies in good standing, but who should have been dealt with while living for "drunkenness."

Your Committee can well imagine a case where a member might be guilty of such revolting conduct near the date of his death as would cause all Masons, by common consent, to concur in the propriety of denying a Masonic burial. Such cases must necessarily be left to the sound discretion and common sense of the Master.

We are, however, clearly of the opinion that a Mason should not be *tried* for drunkenness, or any other offence, *after his death*; and much less should a dead Brother be deprived of Masonic burial *without trial*, when ample opportunity therefor existed during his life. Our laws deal with the living, and not the dead. The question in actual practice ought never to arise, and cannot if the Lodge does its full duty.

However, if a Lodge receives the dues from a Brother, grants him all the privileges of Masonry during his life, and holds him out to the world as one of the Craft, it ought not, after shirking its duty to an unfortunate Brother, dishonor his memory and cast odium upon his family by inflicting punishment upon his lifeless corpse. It is wrong in principle and bad in practice. It deprives a Mason of the right of burial without trial, and encourages looseness in the exercise of discipline by the Lodges. Such a rule should not prevail.

Proceedings confined to local matters.

The Report on Correspondence (187 pages), by Bro. John D. Vincil, is written with his usual acknowledged ability, and is a clear and succinct review of the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges. North Carolina (1887) receives very liberal attention. Grand Master Busbee's address is freely quoted from, and the Orphan Asylum brought prominently forward, by most honorable comment, to the attention of that Grand Jurisdiction. He says:

Ye Masons of Missouri! See what is being done by your Brethren in a sister jurisdiction? There are nearly four times as many Masons in Missouri as

in North Carolina. Yet the Brethren there house, feed, clothe and educate nearly 200 children per annum. These are being prepared for active usefulness in life, trained in virtue's ways, saved from crime, and qualified to build up the Commonwealth. What a noble work, with results beyond any computation! God speed the work in that jurisdiction, and add many more to the list.

Bro. W. M. Williams elected Grand Master; Grand Secretary re-elected.

NEBRASKA—1887.

The Grand Lodge of Nebraska held its thirtieth Annual Communication at Omaha, June 15th, 1887, M. W. Charles K. Coutant, Grand Master, presiding.

The Grand Master's address is a lengthy and interesting paper.

Among his decisions we note the following, which accords with our views:

A. resided within the jurisdiction of a lodge over three years. He removed from the jurisdiction, and was gone over a year. He has returned; has resided within the jurisdiction about six months. *Query*: Can the lodge receive and act on the petition! *Answer*: No; not until he has been a resident one year.

The Grand Orator, William H. Munger, not being able to attend the Grand Lodge, sent his oration. We find in it much to commend. We give an extract:

In the midst of social, religious and political revolutions and convulsions, always and everywhere, Freemasonry has been recognized as the conservative power which has given a balance to extremes and has formed a bulwark against ignorance and oppression. Even in the dark ages, when the Church of Rome imprisoned education and learning of all kind within the gloomy walls of monasteries, the members of our Society stood forth as the champions of liberal thought and free learning, the promoters of peace among men, on the basis of the brotherhood of the race, the protectors and supporters of destitute widows and orphan children, and the earnest advocates of those principles of morality which the Bible teaches.

There is no Report on Foreign Correspondence.

Milton J. Hull, of Edgar, was elected Grand Master; Grand Secretary was re-elected.

NEW BRUNSWICK—1887.

The twentieth Annual Communication at St. John was opened in due form April 26th, 1887, by D. G. M. Harry Beckwith, the Grand Master being prevented from attending by public duties.

The address of the Grand Master was read by the D. G. Master, and is a very interesting production. We like some, if not all, of his views exceedingly. He does not believe in hurried recognitions of New Grand Lodges. He says of the "General Masonic Convention" as follows, which suits us:

Whatever may be our feelings with regard to the particular subjects to be

discussed at such a meeting, and however desirable may be an interchange of views by well-informed Masons on these or any subjects connected with our Craft, I question very much the advisability of such a meeting, unless distinctly authorized by the Grand Lodges, and then only for the consideration of definitely proposed and clearly stated subjects. I do not know what inherent power Grand Masters and Past Grand Masters possess to hold such conventions, or whether the power is confined to them, or whether Masters and Past Masters of Lodges, or even private Masons, may not also hold similar conventions. Certain it is that the Grand Lodges existing to-day are, each one within its own jurisdiction, possessed of full and ample powers for all purposes of sovereignty, and no convention can add to or take from these powers.

He feelingly alludes to the Masonic dead. He speaks of unaffiliated Masons as follows :

And this matter of unaffiliated Masons brings me to another point. Application is constantly received at the Grand Secretary's office for permission to bury (and sometimes without permission it is done) Masons who have lived many years in the vicinity of a Lodge without affiliating with it. Our Constitution declares that no Mason can be interred with the formalities of the fraternity except at his own request, which must be communicated to the Master of the Lodge of which he died a member. Now, no one would desire to have this rule too rigidly applied; as, for instance, in the case of a brother, active and honored, yet dying so suddenly as to be unable to communicate his wishes. I would not say even that there are not circumstances in which a Master of a Lodge should see a worthy Mason interred with the ceremony of the Craft, even though he was not in active membership; but it should be distinctly understood that under our Constitution, as it exists to-day, the unaffiliated Mason has no claim upon the Lodge in his vicinity for a public Masonic funeral. The duty to see a brother decently interred clearly rests upon us if there is no one to perform that office for him; but there is no need to discharge that duty publicly and with Masonic ceremonial.

In alluding to certain dispensations granted, he says :

I granted these dispensations with great pleasure, and only regret that the public observance of the Festivals of the Craft are not more numerous. At one time in our Provincial history Masonic gatherings, in which the public joined, were the great social events of the locality in which they were held, and they brought together persons of all religions, of all shades of politics, of all conditions, thus affording excellent opportunity for the exercise of the social virtues. With the growth of other organizations, where once none existed, we have allowed our place to be taken by them; and, perhaps, the great increase of the means of communication between the Provincial settlements has affected our old ideas of hospitality.

Of his decisions he says :

During the year I was called on to make a few decisions; but one of them involved an important principle, which it may be advisable to state to the Grand Lodge. A Lodge has a by-law which provides that a brother six months in arrears cannot vote. A candidate was proposed and black-balled, and was declared rejected. Afterwards it was alleged that ten of the members who voted were disqualified under the law. I held that the ballot was good and that the candidate was regularly rejected. Without entering upon a consideration of the policy of the by-law referred to, I might say that the enforcement of such a

by-law is a matter of local concern. The Master should enforce it; but if, by general consent, it is not uniformly enforced, it would be wrong to suddenly bring it into active operation on such an occasion as a ballot, when the most important vote which it is possible to give in a Lodge was to be given. But the real ground upon which I made up my mind was that the ballot is secret, and nobody ought to know how his brother voted. Nobody had a right to assume that the parties subject to this by-law were those who voted to reject. There appeared no ground for the assumption. When a ballot is passed in the usual way and the candidate is declared rejected by the Master he *is* rejected, and the Lodge, the Master, or the Grand Master has no power to open that ballot; and no other ballot can be had, no matter what the by-laws of the Lodge may provide, except in the way prescribed by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge. This might as well be understood once for all.

Correct.

The following commends itself to all :

In all our discussions, and even differences of opinion, should there be differences, let us remember that one great object of our institution is the cultivation of kindness with each other and the increase of charity with all mankind. Let us endeavor to practice our professions; and when, in our eyes, a brother fails, according to our standard of judgment, let us thankfully perform towards him one of the noblest offices we can perform, and judge him as *we* would desire to be judged.

Bro. James McNichol elected Grand Master, and Grand Secretary re-appointed. No Report on Correspondence.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1887.

Semi-annual Communication at Manchester, December 28, 1886, Grand Master presiding.

The ninety-eighth Annual Communication at Concord, May 18, 1887, was opened in ample form by Grand Master William R. Burleigh. His address is a plain statement of official acts.

Among the "Public Ceremonies" in which the Grand Lodge took part during the year, he mentions one on "June 24, 1886, when the oldest Lodge in the State, St. John's No. 1, of Portsmouth, celebrated their 150th anniversary in a noteworthy manner." Truly a noteworthy occasion, and we offer to "this ancient of days"—our most venerable sister of Portsmouth—our most sincere and fraternal congratulations. Long may she exist to teach the lessons of masonry "resplendent with moral beauty and radiant with miracles of light."

In the three decisions reported by him we fully concur.

The proceedings generally relate to local affairs, except that we note the Grand Lodges of South Australia and New South Wales were accorded recognition.

The Report on Correspondence is by Bro. A. S. Wait (176 pages), and we must say that we always enjoy his reports. There seems to be something in the way and manner in which he carries on his work that is very pleasant to

us. But we do wish he would ask his printer to abandon the Roman numerals in paging it.

Under ALABAMA, he says:

The Committee on Jurisprudence recommend an amendment of the Grand Constitution, to the effect that the reversal by the Grand Lodge of a sentence of suspension or expulsion by a Subordinate Lodge should operate to restore the brother to membership in his Lodge.

This we regard as a step in the right direction, and we trust the proposed amendment will become the law among our brethren of Alabama, as it ought to be that of masonry universal.

And under TEXAS, on the same subject:

Charges were preferred against a brother for having cast a black ball on a petition for the degrees after he had, as a member of the investigating committee, reported favorably of the candidate. He was tried by his lodge, found guilty and expelled. On appeal, the Committee on Grievances and Appeals held, as we do not see how they could have done otherwise, that the act constituted no masonic offence, and reported a resolution which was adopted by the Grand Body, reversing the conviction and restoring the accused to all his rights as a mason, *except membership in said lodge*.

This exception of *membership in his lodge* is in accordance with a rule which a long time ago prevailed in many Grand Jurisdictions, New Hampshire with the rest. We never hesitated to express the opinion that it contained the very essence of injustice; and it has been abrogated with us, and we had supposed with most jurisdictions. It has been denounced as unjust and wrong by many if not most masonic writers of our day, by one of highest repute, even as barbarous. We regret that it is found to prevail any where, and we conceive that no clearer exemplification of the injustice of the rule could be presented than the case here noticed. A brother had simply exercised the right which confessedly pertains to every member in good standing of a lodge; it is charged as unmasonic conduct, and sentence of expulsion being inflicted, although unjust and confessedly without cause, he is denied redress except to the very partial extent of being allowed to remain a non-affiliated Mason. The effect of the rule is to enable a lodge, without cause and at its mere pleasure, to deprive a brother of his rights as a member. If our brethren of Texas are satisfied with such a law, we in New Hampshire have no right to complain. We can but express the belief, however, that a true sense of justice cannot approve it.

The old rule prevails here.

Under GEORGIA, he says:

Among the decisions reported by the Grand Master, we note the two following:

The result of the ballot, when declared, cannot be reconsidered, *no matter if the brother who cast the black ball says it was a mistake arising from defective eye-sight*.

It is unmasonic, and the practice is to be condemned, to institute inquiry, as to who cast a black ball, or why it was cast, and the Worshipful Master should refuse to permit any inquiry or investigation to be made, *even if desired by all the members present*.

For the Master or brethren after a ballot to institute inquiry, in order to

ascertain who cast a black ball, we agree would not only be unmasonic but reprehensible; but where a black ball is cast by mistake, and so declared by the brother casting it, no brother having left the Lodge since the ballot was taken, and all wishing the mistake corrected, to hold that the correction cannot be made, seems to us, as we have said more than once before, not only wrong but absurd in any point of view. In our humble judgment, no principle or interest of Freemasonry requires any such rule, and it can never be productive of beneficial results.

No Mason will defend more earnestly than we the requirement of unanimity in the ballot, or the protection of the brethren from inquiry as to how they vote. But that a mere inadvertence in the casting of a ballot, declared at the time, cannot be corrected by the unanimous wish of all the brethren present is not a logical result of the rule, and is not required by any interest of our institution.

We fully endorse the comments of Bro. Wait, and think the decision of the Grand Master very remarkable.

Under INDIAN TERRITORY, he says:

The following decision, which was approved by the Grand Body, although not in accord with some we have elsewhere noticed, meets our decided approval. We believe it the exact rule which ought to be accepted as the universal law of masonry:

QUES. 5. Has a member of a lodge a right to refuse admission as a visitor a member in good standing in another lodge?

ANS.—As I understand the universal law of Masonry an affiliated M. M. in good standing has a right to visit any lodge of M. M. on the face of the globe, otherwise there is no universality in Masonry; every Mason should have such a feeling within him, and feel that he is welcome everywhere. However, if a member of the lodge visited should object to a visiting brother, the objection should be made known to the W. M., who has a right to judge of its sufficiency. This does not deprive the objecting brother of the right of appeal.

We cannot agree to the proposition that “the objection should be made known to the W. M., who has a right to judge of its sufficiency.” We hold that a member has a right to object without stating his reason, and *no one* can question it or compel a statement of the reason of his objection.

Under KENTUCKY, he says:

In a correspondence with the Grand Master of West Virginia he was informed that by the law of that jurisdiction membership does not necessarily follow reception of the degrees, but that a brother having received the degrees, until he signs the by-laws, is in the condition of an unaffiliated Mason, and may apply to any lodge for membership. Our M. W. Brother of Kentucky expresses surprise to find such a law in that sister jurisdiction; but if he should come to New Hampshire he would find the same law here, and we think it is so in most if not all the jurisdictions of New England.

And we add in North Carolina.

North Carolina 1886, is very pleasantly received.

Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected.

NEW JERSEY—1887.

The one hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the Grand Lodge was celebrated at Trenton, on January 25th, 1887, "socially, oratorically and musically," say the Proceedings. A reception was held by the Grand Master at Masonic Hall, and at two o'clock P. M. a Special Communication was opened in ample form by Grand Master Joseph W. Congdon. The celebration was then proceeded with in the Taylor Opera House, a large audience present, with music and several addresses. The Grand Master made a short address appropriate to the occasion. He was followed by P. G. M., Henry W. Cannon, with an Historical Essay, giving most valuable and interesting information and statistics, relative to the introduction of Masonry into New Jersey. The commission issued by the Duke of Norfolk, Grand Master of England, constituting Bro. Daniel Cox, of New Jersey, Provincial Grand Master of the Provinces of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania (*sic*), is given in full and bears date the 5th day of July, 1730.

We wish we could quote the whole of the address because of its value and interest. The oration, by P. G. M. Wallis, then followed and a fine production it is. We quote the following :

Looking out upon the inexplicable wonders of creation, all men accept with reverence the fact of a first great cause; and religion holds the allegiance of men, largely because it points us to an Almighty Father, the great cause of all, and instils in us an abiding faith in an almighty, all-wise and all-good Creator and Preserver of all things. Without such faith in man, society would be impossible, morality a myth. A belief in God, then, is essential to the well-being of society and the happiness of mankind, and, from the earliest written records of the Craft, we find that the Mason has always been taught "that he shall be true to God."

But a God who hides himself in impenetrable mystery, while he may compel our awe, can neither command our affection nor afford us a guide by which to shape our lives, either for our own well-being or for the good of the society in which we live. He has therefore spoken to us in the Bible, which, whatever criticisms may be passed upon it, has been received and accepted as furnishing the best rules for the regulation of human society, and the only guide for the future. The vital importance of the Bible to humanity is shown by the condition of those people who have been or are ignorant of it.

But, with Masons, the Bible has always been the rule and guide for their faith and practice.

Without a belief in the immortality of the soul, man is but little better than the beasts. It is this belief whether confessed or not, that enables man to impose a curb upon his purely animal passions and instincts. Without it, his desires must be the measure of his conduct. Imagine the state of that society where its members, untrammelled by any thought for the future, govern their actions solely by the impulses of their natures. Whatever, then, instils in man a belief in a hereafter, is one of the bulwarks of human society.

But Masons to-day, and through all the history of the institution, have been taught to look forward to a blessed mortality.

A banquet closed the labors of the day, at which was presented first a most tempting *menu* or bill of fare. With the last item therein mentioned, "cham-

pagne," came the toasts and speech-making and it was well done, "rich, rare and racy," and the memorable occasion passed away, to be renewed one hundred years hence, by "other lips and other hearts."

The next day, January 26th, the one hundredth Annual Communication was opened in ample form by Grand Master Congdon, and we are glad to see so many were present after the festivities of the night before. It speaks well for the Craft in New Jersey.

The Grand Master's address opens with an allusion to its being the Centennial Communication, and then discusses several topics of interest, local and general. He endorses a "General Masonic Convention," and hopes that his successor will accept the invitation to the one held at Chicago, June 22d, 1887.

The Lodges in New Jersey very promptly contributed \$2,009.00 to the Masonic sufferers in Charleston. Noble work.

He mentions the controversy between the Grand Lodges of England and Quebec, and expresses the following opinion :

Certain Grand Lodges have expressed decided opinions in the case—notably Vermont, and Illinois has severed all intercourse with the three lodges concerned. Such eminent Masonic jurists as Past Grand Master Vaux, of Pennsylvania, and Past Grand Master Drummond, of Maine, have sustained Quebec emphatically, while Grand Master Lawrence, of New York, speaks unequivocally in favor of England.

I unhesitatingly concur with Grand Master Lawrence that Lodges should not be rendered clandestine and illegal when enjoying authorized existence under foreign charters which they were freely permitted to retain under the newly-created Grand Lodge. Inasmuch as it is not specifically requested that this Grand Lodge take action *pro* or *con*, as the interests of this jurisdiction are not immediately affected by this unfortunate difference, and as the future may open up a way of amicable adjustment, I recommend that the facts presented be borne in thoughtful consideration for possible future action, and that no definite declaration of concurrence with the position of either Grand Lodge be for the present made.

The Craft he says has never been in a better condition.

Twenty-three decisions he reports, all of which were endorsed by the Grand Lodge.

Report on Correspondence is presented by Bro. James A. Norton "*for the Committee*," covers 126 pages, and reviews the Proceedings of 54 Grand Lodges. The review of each is brief and pointed, now and then an extract, and an opinion. North Carolina (1886) receives attention.

An engraved likeness of Bro. William Hardacre, Grand Master in 1882, adorns the volume, and we congratulate the reporters, that they did not have the trouble in deciphering *his* signature, that occurred with that of another P. G. M. of New Jersey.

Bro. Robert M. Moore elected Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected.

NEW YORK—1887.

The one hundredth and sixth Annual Communication was opened in ample

form at New York City on June 7th, 1887, by Grand Master Frank R. Lawrence.

His address is quite lengthy, but very interesting. He says "the number of ceremonials peculiar to our Craft which I have been called upon to perform has been considerably less during the previous year, owing * * * to the fact that the attention of the Fraternity has been so greatly attracted in another direction," but he does not tell us what so greatly attracted. He congratulates the Grand Lodge upon the great efficiency and usefulness of the system of work and lectures. He pronounces the "Foreign Relations" harmonious and fraternal; reports the recognition of the Grand Lodge of the Island of Porto Rico, and comments upon the difference existing between the Grand Lodges of England and Quebec. In regard to the unfortunate trouble in Connecticut, he says:

I am in receipt of an official report of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, at a Special Communication held on the 20th day of April last, and also of documents from the Grand Secretary of that State, from which it appears that, at the communication in question, after due notice and trial, the Charter of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, of New Haven in that State, was revoked; and that all Masonic intercourse with the members of that Lodge was forbidden, until they should have complied with certain conditions. At the same communication, the Master and Wardens of Hiram Lodge, with other Brethren, were duly tried and expelled from the Fraternity, the general charge against both the Lodge and the members concerned being that of disobedience to the authority of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of the State of Connecticut. The Grand Secretary of Connecticut states that, disregarding the action in question, the Lodge affected thereby and its members are in a state of contumacy to the authority of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, and are continuing to hold meetings under the direction of the expelled officers, claiming authority therefor under a charter issued a century or more ago by the then Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Such action is requested at our hands as may uphold the authority of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut with respect to this matter.

Although the Masonic standing of several hundred otherwise estimable Brethren in the State of Connecticut is here concerned, this is purely a case of the infliction of domestic discipline by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut upon one of its subordinates, and there can be no question that, in so far as circumstances may require action upon our part, it is our duty to sustain the course which the Grand Lodge of Connecticut has thought proper to take; the authority of that Grand body within the State of Connecticut, with relation to matters of Ancient Craft Masonry, being as supreme and exclusive as is your authority within the State of New York.

According to my understanding of the facts, Hiram Lodge took part in the organization of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, almost a century ago, and has ever since acknowledged the authority of that Grand body, and has participated in its proceedings as one of its constituent members. The Warrant issued to Hiram Lodge by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was surrendered, according to the statement of the Grand Master of Connecticut, at the time of the organization of the Grand Lodge of that State, and has been allowed to be retained by Hiram Lodge merely as a relic. Under these circumstances the mere possession of that Warrant affords not a shadow of justification for the action of Hiram Lodge in assuming, under the guidance of expelled members, to continue its workings in defiance of the authority of the Grand Lodge. Such a course, if given any countenance, would be subversive and destructive of all

Masonic authority and discipline, and should be sternly repressed and severely condemned. This subject should be placed in the hands of the proper Committee, to the end that they may recommend whatever action the circumstances of this case may require at the hands of this Grand Lodge.

As to a Masonic Congress, he finds "it impossible to discover in what way it is likely to be of utility or advantage," and so it seems to us.

He says :

During the past twelve months our sister Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland, have each celebrated by appropriate exercises the one hundredth anniversary of their organization ; Pennsylvania, on the 24th day of September, 1886, New Jersey on the 25th day of January, 1887, and Maryland on the 10th day of May, 1887.

He might have added North Carolina on January 12th, 1887.

Several interesting Reports are set forth which we must pass over.

The Report on Correspondence was presented by Bro. Jesse B. Anthony for Bro. John W. Simons, Chairman of the Committee. We read it with much pleasure and profit, and most generally concurred in the opinions expressed upon matters of Masonic law. We note some matters therein. Under "COLORADO" :

With the following we entirely agree :

I have been asked to state whether, upon the request of a lodge, regularly preferred, I would grant a dispensation for the burial of a non-affiliate with Masonic rites. I replied that I thought the matter could safely be left to the discretion of a lodge acquainted with the circumstances, and that when the lodge vouched, as it were, for the merits of the case, I should grant the dispensation. Upon further consideration, however, I feel satisfied that in such cases no dispensation is required. Admitting the validity of our by-law depriving non-affiliates of all the rights and benefits of Masonry without trial, it seems to be negative in its application so far as the lodges are concerned ; that is, while it would cut off the non-affiliate's right to demand Masonic burial, it would not interfere with the right of the lodge to confer it.

Under "DAKOTA" :

We find that "one blind of an eye, the other being good, may be made a Mason," with which we entirely agree.

According to our ideas the law of physical qualifications cannot reasonably be stretched beyond the ability of the candidate to comply with the requirements of the ritual, and, it being admitted that a man with one eye can see as much, and often more than one with two, we see no reason why he should not be initiated.

The decision of the Grand Master was not adopted by the Grand Lodge.

Under "NEVADA" :

On the question of allowing other societies to mingle with ours on occasions of public ceremony, he is especially sound, as the following excerpt will show :

A Masonic lodge is always in one of three conditions : at labor, at refreshment, or closed and the members dispersed. When the lodge is closed, the Master and Wardens have no authority over the Craft. All are simply citizens,

not Masons, and anything done in this condition would not be Masonic work ; consequently, the burial of a brother could not be done by a closed lodge. At refreshment, the Craft enjoys itself in innocent mirth, and no lodge would attempt to conduct a funeral in such condition. Therefore, the funeral services must be done as Masonic labor, when the lodge is open, the officers in the places and officially designated, the brethren clothed as Master Masons, and the lodge strictly guarded. When the lodge appears on the street, it is open ; none can enter or leave the procession without the permission of the Master or Marshal, and they must know that every one present and wearing an apron is a Master Mason. In performing the burial services over a deceased brother, the lodge is at labor, and no one not a Mason can be admitted to participate in the ceremony while the lodge is doing its work. This is not a question of courtesy due to other societies, but a duty to our own in obeying its law. The Masonic society should never appear in public clothed as Masons, except to perform Masonic work, and when it does, it must have complete control.

Under "WASHINGTON" :

Query. Can a lodge U. D. admit members by affiliation ?

Answer. It cannot, because a lodge U. D. is essentially and strictly the creature of the Grand Master, and exists only during his will and pleasure, and, consequently, possesses but one function of a lodge, viz., that of making Masons. Just what the Grand Master himself might do—make a Mason at sight—but no more. Therefore, it follows that if the lodge U. D. is the creature of the Grand Master entirely, he can only invest it with such powers and faculties as he is himself possessed of, and no more. I hold it to be impossible that the Creator can endow his creatures with powers greater than his own.

From this we are compelled to respectfully dissent. A lodge under dispensation is *not* the creature of the Grand Master, and, in consenting to its formation, he imparts to it no powers of his own, but only those provided in the constitution and regulations of the Grand Lodge, of which, for the time being, he is the agent. He exercises his discretion and judgment as to whether an application for a new lodge should be granted, and, having exercised this discretion, his power in the premises is exhausted ; the regulations take charge, and all subsequent proceedings must be in obedience to them or they are void.

In this we cannot endorse the opinion of the Committee, as the "Masonic Code of North Carolina" defines the powers of lodges U. D. as follows :

SEC. 5. A Lodge working under Dispensation has not the power to affiliate members. It has not territorial or penal jurisdiction. It cannot try or discipline the Masons composing it, or those living nearer to it than to another Lodge. It cannot enact By-Laws. It has no powers except those specially delegated by the Grand Master's Dispensation, under which it is established.

Under "WISCONSIN" :

The reported decisions are in accordance with general usage except this :

4. When one lodge confers a degree upon a candidate, for and at the request of another lodge, the fee for such degree, in the absence of any special agreement, belongs to the lodge conferring the degree. This may be modified by special arrangement between the lodges.

With suitable deference, this looks to us like inviting a man to dinner and then presenting him a bill for his entertainment. When one lodge requests another to confer a degree or degrees, it is considered a matter of fraternal courtesy on general principles, although a special agreement might be made. In

New York we charge the whole fee for initiation and confer the remaining degrees for personal merit and faithful work as an Apprentice ; and if, therefore, we paid another lodge for conferring a degree for us, the money would have to come out of our own pockets and not those of the individual.

We fully adopt the view of New York upon general principles and because our Code provides :

SEC. 4. No charge shall be made for degrees by a Lodge conferring the same at the request of another Lodge, the act being an extension of Masonic courtesy.

The committee made a special report upon "the Quebec-England difficulty and the recognition of various so-called Grand Lodges in Mexico and Spain," and recommended the following resolutions which were adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, while earnestly upholding the rights of the Grand Lodge of Quebec as a sovereign and independent masonic government, refuses to accept the doctrine that lodges legally constituted by competent and acknowledged authority can be compelled by any known law to transfer their allegiance against their will. At the same time it is fraternally recommended to the three Lodges in Montreal, holding English warrants, that they cease their opposition, and become part of the constituency of the Grand Lodge of Quebec.

Resolved, That in the present condition of Masonry in Mexico and Spain, this Grand Lodge deems it expedient, for the present, to deny the recognition asked for by the applicants named in this report.

North Carolina is not noticed.

Excellent engravings of Bro. James Gibson, Grand Master 1868-9, and Bro. John Boyd, Grand Treasurer, 1880-'7, adorn the volume.

Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected.

NEW SOUTH WALES—1886-'7.

These Proceedings reached us just in time for review.

Quarterly Communication was held at Sydney, it is supposed, though the Proceedings do not state, on September 1st, 1886. The business was of no special importance and the session was short. The Grand Secretary was detained from the Grand Lodge by sickness.

Quarterly Communication at Sydney, December 1st, 1886. The Grand Master, M. W., H. J. Tarrant, presided. The Grand Secretary was in his place.

We notice the following record :

In reply to a question from Grand Secretary, the Most Worshipful Grand Master stated, that in the absence of the Worshipful Master, Immediate Past Master and Wardens of a Lodge, it was competent for a visiting Past Master to take the Chair, but it was a question of good taste to do so without being requested by the Executive Officers.

We cannot see the legality of such decision. It is not in conformity with recognized masonic law and usage.

Quarterly Communications, March 2d, 1887, and June 1st, 1887. At the latter session the Grand Officers were elected. Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected.

Annual Communication at Sydney, June 29th, 1887. Grand Master present and Bro. Mark A. Toomey acting as Grand Secretary.

A Special Communication was held on the 11th of June, 1887. The death of the Grand Secretary, Bro. Nicholas Weekes, was announced. His remains were interred with appropriate ceremonies by the Grand Lodge. He died suddenly at the age of 55.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to the banquet-room, though not to engage in the usual festivities in view of the recent death of the Grand Secretary, and the Grand Master made an address of interest.

Bro. Mark A. Toomey, of Sydney, is the Grand Secretary *pro tem*.

The Grand Secretary (Bro. Toomey) presented the report on Foreign Correspondence. He briefly reviews the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina for 1885.

NOVA SCOTIA—1887.

Twenty-second Annual Communication, at Truro, June 1st, 1887, M. W. Lewis Johnstone, Grand Master, and Benj. Curren, Grand Secretary.

Divine services were held in St. John's church. An edifying sermon was preached by the Grand Chaplain, Bro. D. C. Moore, from the text, "Love the Brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the King."

We quote a passage :

In Italy I can bear personal testimony to the fact that the Bible holds the same position in a Masonic Lodge that it holds in our English speaking Lodges. Yet, notwithstanding these facts, which are no secrets, but patent to all who care to know, we are still assailed. Hear some extracts from a late Belgian publication : "Masonry is essentially not a beneficial association as it appears to outsiders and even to the vast majority of its adherents, but a religious sect, and one of the most diabolical kind. Its ritual and its ceremonies are cunningly designed to parody the Sacraments of the Church, and its sworn purpose since its organization in England has been the destruction of Christianity." * * * "The great secret of Masonry consists in knowing that Freemasonry is the work of Satan—his religion, his worship, his citadel among men, and his seat of operation upon earth." * * * "Lucifer, say the Masonic theologians, the genius of goodness, does everything that contributes to the happiness of man. God destroys the work of humanitarian progress and wishes only the ruin of the human race."

This MOST TRUTHFUL writer gives the following as the Freemasons' prayer :

"O Adonai, accursed God, the first duty of every intelligent and free man is to banish Thee from his mind and his conscience, for Thou art essentially hostile to our nature and we do not recognize Thy authority. We arrive at knowl-

edge in spite of Thee. Thou art the true Satan. Thou art evil. From this day, freed from fear of Thee, and having become wise, we swear, with the hand uplifted towards heaven, that Thou art the torture of our reason and the bug-bear of our conscience."

I need not waste adjectives upon this trash, but would pray the Great and Good God to forgive me for even repeating it in this His holy house. Masons would do all honor to His holy name and His word. I question if any portion of the sacred writings would more fully describe the Freemason's position to those included in the mystic tie and to those who are not, than the words with which I began: "Honor all men. Love the Brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the King." Our coming to-day to this holy and beautiful house so kindly lent to us, is a public acknowledgment that we fear God. The bearing of the Sacred Volume in our procession shows openly to all who see, that God's word is precious in our eyes.

The address of the Grand Master is replete with interesting reading. Referring to a subject of international interest, he says:

The month of June, which ushers in the 22d year of our existence as an Independent Grand Lodge, marks also the terminal portion of the Jubilee year of our beloved Queen.

Among the many thousands who, in every quarter of the globe, acknowledge and enjoy the constitutional freedom secured to them under the benignant sway of British Monarchical rule, I think I may fairly assume that the Masonic Fraternity, with whom the Royal Family are so closely identified, will yield to none in deep and loyal devotion to the illustrious woman who, for the last half century, has wielded her Imperial and Queenly sceptre over her vast dominions.

We note his remarks on a very important subject:

While it is gratifying to note that in the last Annual of Proceedings no suspensions for "unmasonic conduct" are recorded, it is yet a matter for regret that in a parallel and contiguous column, no less than 87 suspensions for non-payment of dues appear.

Although personally opposed to a penalty of such a degrading character, as a published decree of suspension from Masonic privileges for such an offence, I cannot resist the conclusion, that when a brother of sound financial ability fails to acquit himself of his just indebtedness to his Lodge, such a refusal under the obligations he has assumed, cannot be viewed in any other light than that of "unmasonic conduct," requiring Masonic discipline and censure.

The Grand Secretary presented a brief, business report. He speaks hopefully of the prospects of the Craft in the Province.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Bro. David C. Moore. It is a lengthy and pleasant review of fifty Grand Lodges, North Carolina for 1887 among the number.

Under the head of Maine he says:

On the subject of suspension for non-payment of dues the Grand Master suggests as a remedy that secretaries report at each Annual Meeting the names of all members who are two years in arrears, and that the Junior Warden within thirty days prefer charges against them. He thinks that a large number of those suspended from year to year could have been saved, and adds the following truism: "*if all secretaries did their duty no regulation of this kind would be needed.*"

This subject is assuming such importance as to demand general attention and discussion. Much of the trouble arises from the failure to collect dues promptly, and the thousands of *non-affiliates* in the various Jurisdictions, who are so from the failure to meet their financial obligations to their Lodges, might have been saved through some effort and a proper discharge of duty on the part of Lodge Secretaries.

He refers pleasantly to our Centennial observances, quotes extensively from Grand Master Busbee's address, and says further: "A magnificent oration was delivered by Bro. Eugene S. Martin, which well repays perusal, and which we only wish we could incorporate bodily into these pages."

The chairman of this committee, in thus copying what is said of his associate, feels that he is but giving just expression to the general sentiment of those who have read his valuable contribution to the history of the Order.

Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected.

OREGON—1887.

The Thirty-seventh Annual Communication began at Portland on June 15th, 1887, and was opened in ample form by Grand Master James C. Fullerton.

The Grand Master's address discusses many topics of interest. He says:

Indeed, has masonry grown with the growth and prospered with the prosperity of our State. It has done more—it has led the van. Frequently in advance of the church, and sometimes even in advance of the school-house, has the altar of Masonry been erected in almost every village in our jurisdiction.

The official decisions reported accord with the general law.

The Grand Lodge of South Australia was accorded recognition and fraternal welcome.

Bro. J. C. Moreland, Grand Orator, delivered a most excellent address, from which we extract the following beautiful passages:

One of the great curses of the age and times is this fierce, excessive, all-absorbing, mercenary spirit which crowds out all higher and nobler motives in the desire for gain; which causes men to bow down before the golden calf and worship the god of Mammon, and causes them to forget the wants of others and the duty they owe to their fellow men, and bend all their energies, dwarf all the nobler aspirations of their nature and shrivel up their souls in the one absorbing passion for gold. Such men shut their eyes and deaden their hearts to every call for relief and every cry for pity, and if appealed to in behalf of some distressed and destitute creature, they coolly query, "Am I my brother's keeper?" and rush on in the mad race for wealth. From such actions come the legitimate fruit of threatened anarchy and communism. These vast aggregations of wealth in the hands of a few, not used as a means of benefiting the world and bettering the community in which and from which they are gathered, but rather used as a means of oppression and a menace to the poorer class, together with their opposite, the improvidence and poverty of the many, to-day constitute one of the chiefest dangers to the stability of our institutions, and will always be a threatening menace until they are changed.

The welfare of our common country demands that all conservative, moral

forces shall be called into active service and solidly arrayed against this great danger. This corrupt, selfish spirit which bends everything towards the acquirement of wealth, ought to be checked and directed towards the accomplishment of better things, as well as that more dangerous communistic spirit abroad which would strike down all distinctions of society, all incentives to honest thrift and frugal industry, and inaugurate a thoughtless, reckless, brutal warfare upon all the uplifting and regenerating influences of our social and political life, should be promptly put down.

To accomplish this end there is no moral force abroad in the land to-day that is doing more or can do more than Masonry. Here we meet upon the level. Around our altar are all equal. There are no distinctions of rank or station. Masonry regards no man for his worldly wealth or honor. It is the internal and not the external qualifications of man that Masonry regards. The peasant and the prince, the millionaire and the poor man kneel at the same altar, acknowledge the same great truths, and clasp hands in a common brotherhood. Here is true fraternity. Here all are brethren. Kneeling around the altar of Freemasonry and taking upon ourselves its vows, in the union of a fraternal bond we are bound to the whole great brotherhood by cords that cannot easily be broken, and find our safety, honor and pleasure in the friendly sympathy of cemented hearts.

The Report on Correspondence, by Bro. S. F. Chadwick, is a most interesting review of the Proceedings of forty-nine Grand Lodges, and contains many valuable comments thereon. There is much that might be extracted, but we can only note the following:

Under MICHIGAN, he says:

Now comes the ever-present story of the non-payment of dues. Past Grand Master Allen decided that "charges of unmasonic conduct should be preferred against brethren *who are able and will not pay their dues*, and such discipline enforced as the case may require or the by-laws provide," and adds: "This is by far the preferable course and most *masonic*." In this Grand Master Shoemaker most heartily concurs. With due respect for the decisions of these eminent Masters, we differ and are compelled to say that we fail to see any masonry whatever in this decision, that it is unmasonic conduct for a Mason to refuse to pay dues if he is able to pay them, and can be suspended or expelled for such conduct. So long as masonry is a voluntary institution, to enter and retire from it at pleasure, there is nothing in acquitting a lodge that calls for expulsion. There are conditions, some suppose, imposed upon a Mason when he joins a lodge that he will remain in that lodge or some other forever, or so long as he can pay dues. There is nothing of the kind, and it takes two to make a mutual contract.

And again under UTAH:

The Grand Master states the case thus: A brother, suspended for non-payment of dues, may make application to be restored, pay up all arrearages, and thus remove the cause for which he was suspended; and yet, upon a ballot being taken, the requisite two-thirds may be wanting, and asks: Was such a result contemplated? We answer, yes; and we may well ask if there is not an injustice here? Usually, those who go out the back way by not paying dues, are not looked upon as desirable timber, and if they can be got rid of without a trial, this method is regarded as ample for that purpose. It makes no difference: this class cannot be restored, even if they pay up their dues and beg for mercy. We do not allude to those who are honestly behind, and who would

not be so if they could help it. We would have it, if a brother does not pay his dues after a fixed time and notification, strike him off and have nothing more to do with him. Then, if he ever gets back, he must do it by taking all chances.

Since we mentioned the statement of the case for non-payment of dues made by the Grand Master, and our comments upon it, we find the following in the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which may refer to the by-law in question. It says:

Add to the said section the following: "And in the event of his rejection by the lodge, the amount so paid by him shall be refunded; but if the payment of his arrears be accompanied by a petition for dimit, he shall be restored to membership, and the dimit shall thereupon be granted."

If this has reference to the question of restoration for non-payment of dues, it does not help the matter at all. Why grant a dimit to a brother whom you would not admit into the lodge granting it? Here is an injustice to masonry at large, if not to some other lodge to which he might present his dimit and be admitted, the lodge not knowing how he got it, or that he could not become a member of the lodge granting it. This thing cannot be patched up in this way. While lodges are not favorable to taking a brother back who has been suspended for non-payment of dues, the only way is to let him go, cut him off and let him take his chances in getting back into the lodge that suspended him, or any other lodge, as he could then stand on the same footing in regard to all of them. Lodges will never refuse a meritorious case, and they are very scarce.

The matter of what to do with those excluded for non-payment of dues, seems to be an agitated question everywhere, and Bro. Chadwick thinks the delinquents are entitled to no favor. We thoroughly agree with him, and deem the policy of *leniency* adopted by some Grand Lodges injurious in the extreme. In short, it leaves the derelict members to come and go very much as they please, and they are just the class of men to take advantage of this privilege. He seems in favor of a "Congress of Grand Masters" as recommended by the Grand Master of New Jersey, and says:

We like the idea very much, of having the Grand Masters of America and Europe meet in Convention, talk over Masonry, the Masonry of the world. They should take with them the Chairmen of the Committees on Foreign Correspondence, in which event the team would be perfect. Hardly, upon a second thought—we must add Grand Secretaries. And after one or two meetings of this "Congress," representatives from every Grand Lodge would be sent up to this Masonic Congress. This is the age for Conventions. If our brother's views could be carried out, and Grand Masters could meet as proposed, we would like to see it done.

North Carolina 1886, receives handsome notice. The Grand Master's address is admired and quoted from with praise, and the work of the Orphan Asylum applauded. Other parts of the Proceedings receive fraternal attention.

The "Conclusion" of the Report we would like to copy *in extenso*, but cannot. It is very fine, and we commend it to the Fraternity at large.

Bro. Andrew Nasburg elected Grand Master, and the Grand Secretary re-elected.

PENNSYLVANIA—1886.

The pamphlet before us contains sundry and divers matters and things. The first thing that strikes us is a steel engraving, (as frontispiece), of R. W., E. Coppée Mitchell, Grand Master, 1885—1886; next, an engraving on wood of the Masonic Temple; and further on, steel engravings of R. W., Thomas R. Patton, Grand Treasurer since 1873; and R. W., Michael Nisbet, P. G. M., Grand Secretary.

Quarterly Communications were held March 3d, June 2d, September 1st and December 1st, 1886, and an extra Communication September 25th, 1886.

September 24th and 25th, the Grand Lodge celebrated with imposing ceremony the Centennial Anniversary of its Independence, at which addresses were delivered by several. From the address of Bro. Michael Arnold we extract the following valuable historical facts:

There were Masonic Lodges in Pennsylvania at a very early day. In the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, published December 8th, 1730, by Benjamin Franklin, a Mason, he says, "There are several Lodges of Freemasons erected in this province." There has been discovered lately a book of the accounts of members of St. John's Lodge, Liber B, which contain entries made as early as June 24, 1731. Some of the later entries are in the handwriting of Benjamin Franklin. From the designation of the book as Liber B, we may infer that there was another, perhaps, of an earlier date, called Liber A. Thus we prove the existence of the Fraternity in Pennsylvania as early as 1730. Although they may have existed before that year, whence they derived their authority is unimportant; but thereafter, their authority was derived from the Grand Lodge of England, through Brother Daniel Coxe, Provincial Grand Master of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, who was appointed June 5th, 1730, by the Duke of Norfolk, Right Worshipful Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of England. In a letter dated November 17, 1754, from Brother Henry Bell to Dr. Thomas Cadwalader, Brother Bell stated that he was one of the originators of the first Masonic Lodge in Philadelphia, and that they obtained their charter from Grand Master Coxe. The first evidence of the existence of a Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is found in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of June 27, 1732. It is stated in that paper that on "Saturday last, being St. John (Baptist's) Day, a Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons was held at the Sun (it should have been Tun) Tavern, in Water Street, when, after a handsome entertainment, the Worshipful W. Allen, Esq., was unanimously chosen Grand Master of this Province. William Pringle was appointed Deputy Grand Master, and Thomas Boude and Benjamin Franklin were chosen Wardens." The reference to the handsome entertainment shows that they were genuine Masons in that respect. Labor and Refreshment went together. On June 24, 1733, Humphrey Murray was chosen Grand Master; and on June 24, 1734, Benjamin Franklin was elected to the same office. There was, as usual, a very elegant entertainment. The proprietor (this means one of the proprietaries, probably John Penn, who was a Mason), the Governor, and other persons of distinction were present. James Hamilton, Governor of the Province, Thomas Hopkinson, William Plumstead, Joseph Shippen and Philip Syng were successively elected Grand Masters until 1741.

The records of the Grand Lodge having been destroyed by fire, the succession until 1749 cannot be given. But on July 10, 1749, Benjamin Franklin was appointed Provincial Grand Master, this time by Thomas Oxnard, Esq., who held an appointment as Provincial Grand Master of all North America from the Grand Master of England, under date of September 23, 1743. Under this

Warrant meetings were held until March 13, 1750, when William Allen, Esq., a former Grand Master, presented a commission from the Grand Lodge of England appointing him Provincial Grand Master, which was recognized by the Grand Lodge; and Grand Master Allen appointed Benjamin Franklin Deputy Grand Master.

Grand Lodge continued to work under this Warrant until 1761, when William Ball obtained from the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of England a charter for the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania under that authority. It was issued by the Earl of Kelly, Grand Master, and his Wardens and Secretary, and is dated July 14, 1761. Under that Warrant the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania continued to hold Grand Communications until the separation from Great Britain.

On September 25, 1786, it was Resolved that this Grand Lodge is and ought to be a Grand Lodge, independent of Great Britain, or any other authority whatever, and that they are not under any ties to any other Grand Lodge, except those of brotherly love and affection, which they will always be happy to cultivate and preserve with all Lodges throughout the globe."

The Annual Communication was held at Philadelphia, on December 27, 1886, and opened in due form by the Deputy Grand Master, Joseph Eichbaum, who had been elected Grand Master at the Quarterly Communication, held December 1st, and was installed at this Communication. His address is short and refers only to local matters.

The Report on Correspondence covers 184 pages and is made by Bro. Richard Vaux, P. G. M. It is a remarkably fine and exhaustive report, embracing extended extracts from the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges with comments and full discussions of many of them. With several of the opinions expressed we do not concur.

It opens with a general introduction and then takes up each Grand Jurisdiction separately. In reference to the Grand Lodge of Quebec is the following:

The contention between the Grand Lodge of Quebec and the Grand Lodge of England is yet unadjusted. This is cause for the unfeigned regret of all the Grand Lodges of the United States. The Grand Lodge of Quebec is either a supreme sovereign Grand Lodge, or it is not. If it is, then it must assert its supremacy within its jurisdiction. Lodges which hold allegiance to another Grand Lodge, refuse to be governed by the Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction in which they work, reject and deny its lawful authority over them, must be regarded, *quo ad* the jurisdiction they defy, as clandestine.

Quebec has so treated those Lodges within her territory. In this she must be sustained, if the doctrine accepted by the Lodges of the several States of the United States is to be maintained. It is too late now to argue this question. "The American doctrine" on this subject is formulated into a law for all the jurisdictions of the United States. England is tenacious of *her* sovereignty. This prevents her from agreeing to the sovereignty of Quebec. The very reason for the action of England is, that she insists on her sovereign rights as a Grand Lodge, and that her charters, be they where they may, are issued by her, and the Lodges holding them owe her not only their allegiance but obedience.

We venture to suggest to England and Quebec, in the true spirit of Masonic fraternity, they ought to intrust this contention between them to the arbitration of three Grand Lodges of the Craft.

Maine (1886) and Bro. Drummond receive *marked* attention. Bro. Drum-

mond had reported in favor of recognizing "the Grand Lodge of South Australia," on the ground "that this Grand Lodge having been *legally* organized," &c. To this Bro. Vaux replies :

We do not agree to the Masonic possibility of any "legal" organization of a Grand Lodge.

Trusting our esteemed brother Drummond will not consider this criticism as merely technical or verbal and without merit, we remark that in Pennsylvania the word "legal" has no existence in our Masonic vocabulary. We use the word "lawful." An act may be legal but not lawful. It is hardly necessary to cite authority for this statement. A legislature may enact a law legally, but the statute may not be lawful. A court of law of competent authority may declare that law unconstitutional ; it is not then a lawful statute. The forms may be *legal*, but the essence is not lawful.

A court may, after due consideration, decide that the plaintiff is legally entitled to a judgment in his favor, but a superior court may set aside that judgment as not lawful, though it was obtained legally. The word in the above resolution attracted our attention.

This seems to us "drawing a remarkably fine sight" and reminds us of him of whom it is written :

" He was in Logic a great critic,
 Profoundly skilled in Analytic;
 He could distinguish and divide
 A hair twixt south and southwest side."

And again, Bro. Drummond's views on "Public Installations" are combatted at length. Pennsylvania denouncing Public Installations as unmasonic, as violating the "unalterable landmarks of tyled secrecy." We quote at length to do justice to Bro. Vaux :

We assert, here, now, that no public installation or public ceremony was ever performed by a Grand or Subordinate Lodge, as a Lodge. That a public Masonic ceremony cannot be celebrated in a tyled Lodge, never has been, never can be, unless the Landmark is denied, rejected, violated. Then the body, whatever it is, so acting, is not a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. Our esteemed and learned Bro. Drummond may find solace in his cherished belief that he has demolished the Pennsylvania doctrine as to public Masonic ceremonies. But he never will be able to prove by any authentic record that in a lawfully warranted and duly constituted Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, at work under its charter, properly tyled, and in obedience to the Landmarks, a public ceremony ever was performed, or under these absolute restrictions the public were present. We have asserted only that such a public ceremony never has been performed.

Whatever proceedings Masons, as individuals, may have been engaged in, are not involved in the assertion we make. All such, however, either laying corner-stones, or processions, or funeral ceremonies, are not authoritative Masonic Lodge acts, as a Lodge. They may be acts of Masons as men, but not as the assembled or united Masonically convened members of a Lodge, as a Lodge, working under the unalterable Landmark of tyled secrecy.

The installation of the officers of a Lodge is the act of a Lodge. The officers are Lodge officers. They have no official existence, duties, Masonic character, or responsibilities except as officers of a Lodge. The installation by a Lodge of its Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, is part of the Masonic duty of the Lodge. It only can perform it. It cannot work until this

Masonic act is performed. The charter of the Lodge must be on the table when this work is done. A Lodge cannot work in the absence of its charter.

To install these officers without these conditions makes such act void. A public installation of Lodge officers is without these essential conditions. A Lodge whose officers are installed in public is without lawfully instituted and empowered officers; not having lawfully organized, it is not a Lodge. Its acts are not lawful thereafter. In a word, it is not a duly-constituted Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. This, we believe, is the correct view of the subject. It is to be observed that Masonic law is not interpreted by the rules of *court* law, the civil law, or the law of profane institutions. Freemasonry is a law unto itself.

If a Grand Lodge opens, and then calls off, no work can be done. A Subordinate Lodge "called off" is not a Lodge open and at work. It is only a meeting of Masons waiting for the Lodge to be called on, and therefore, and then only, ready for work.

If, when so called off, the members go to a public ceremony, they are only Masons so attending. Whatever acts they may perform in public at such ceremony are acts of Masons, not the act of a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. Though such acts are performed does not make them the acts of a Lodge. This distinction is too plain for argument. It is fatal to all the profound reasoning of Brother Drummond. What is printed in public journals, or indeed intended to be reports of ceremonies conducted by Masons, or those at which Masons are conspicuously present, are wholly unreliable. The mixture by profane witnesses, of Masonic terms used by them, may be authority in Maine for correct information as to such public ceremonies, but careful chroniclers are cautious in accepting such testimony as evidence.

We regret not having the Proceedings of Maine at hand that we might also give Bro. Drummond's views, which called forth the above, and thus present both sides of the question and the relative merits of the arguments, in juxtaposition.

We leave with regret this interesting report for lack of time and space, only pausing to note that North Carolina is very pleasantly mentioned, Grand Master Busbee's address being pronounced "a well considered paper" and "his decisions thoughtful and judicial."

The Grand Secretary was re-elected.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—1887.

The twelfth Annual Communication commenced at Charlottetown on June 24th, 1887, was opened in due form by the Deputy Grand Master, and adjourned to the 30th, and opened in ample form by Grand Master John Yeo.

The Grand Master's address is short and reports the death of the Grand Chaplain, R. W. Rev. John H. Ready, D. D., who had been Grand Chaplain since the organization of the Grand Lodge; R. W. Thomas Brehaut, P. G. Warden, and Bro. Henry Beer, P. M.

The Grand Lodge of South Australia was accorded recognition.

The Grand Master, attended by the Grand Lodge, on July 1st, laid the corner-stone of the new City Building, the ceremonies being fully described.

No Report on Correspondence.

Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected. This Grand Lodge was

organized in the year 1875, and has had but one Grand Master and two Grand Secretaries.

QUEBEC—1887.

The seventeenth Annual Communication was held in Montreal on January 26th, 1887, and opened in ample form by Grand Master J. Fred. Walker.

The Grand Master's address is extremely interesting and presents a cheerful picture of Masonry within his Grand Jurisdiction, with but one cloud to mar its universal harmony, viz., the unfortunate controversy with the Grand Lodge of England in regard to territorial jurisdiction. Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in their report to the Communication of 1887 (Proceedings 1887, page 138,) quote the resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge of Quebec in 1886, and it remains for the present committee to say that in pursuance of that resolution, on the 5th July, 1887, the Grand Master issued his Proclamation, in which, after a full statement of grievances, he "proclaims that all Masonic intercourse be suspended and cease * * * between this Grand Lodge, its subordinate Lodges * * * and the Grand Lodge of England, &c."

We extremely regret that the Grand Lodge of Quebec felt compelled to resort to this step, but we do not see that it had any alternative. In our opinion, it behooves all Grand Lodges to stand shoulder to shoulder with our sister of Quebec in this struggle for jurisdiction, supreme sovereignty, and, we may add, life itself; otherwise no Grand Lodge can exist or control the fraternity within its territorial jurisdiction. Certainly the Grand Lodge of North Carolina must maintain this doctrine *now*, as she was committed to it in the early years of this century, in her controversy with the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. We sincerely hope that better counsels will prevail in the Grand Lodge of England and the cause of discord be removed.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence covers 87 pages and is remarkably able, instructive and entertaining. North Carolina is pleasantly referred to, though our Proceedings had not been received.

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary were re-elected.

RHODE ISLAND—1887.

Emergent Communication at Providence, June 14, 1886, for the purpose of paying the last tribute of respect to Bro. Thomas A. Doyle, P. G. M. The Grand Master presided. The funeral ceremonies at the Lodge and grave are fully set forth, and it is stated that the service appointed for the Lodge Room is the new service adopted by the Grand Lodge and used for the first time on that occasion. It differs materially from ours and any we have seen.

Emergent Communication at Providence, July 29th, 1886, for the funeral obsequies of Bro. C. B. Manchester, P. M. The Grand Master presided.

Special Communication at Greene, September 28, 1886, opened in due form for the purpose of dedicating the new Hall of Ionic Lodge, No. 28.

Semi-annual Communication at Providence, November 15th, 1886, Grand Master presiding.

The ninety-seventh Annual Communication at Providence, May 16, 1887, and opened in ample form by Grand Master Newton D. Arnold.

In his address he reports the death of seven members of the Grand Lodge during the year; no decisions, but a number of dispensations, of which he says:

It will be noticed that several of these dispensations were given to waive requirements of the Grand Constitution or General Regulations, and I desire to say in this connection that while it is acknowledged in this jurisdiction that the Grand Master has the *power* to thus waive the provisions of the Grand Constitution and General Regulations in cases that do not affect the ancient landmarks of Freemasonry, and while I believe that the Grand Master has this power by right, yet I do *not* believe that such power should be *exercised* except in extraordinary and pressing cases. It is better that a Lodge or person should suffer considerable inconvenience rather than that any provision of the Constitution or General Regulations should be waived.

He seemed to approve the holding of the "General Masonic Convention." Other matters in the address of local interest.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence report, "that as nothing has been referred to them for consideration they have no formal report to make." Strange! What becomes of all the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges sent to our sister of Rhode Island?

Bro. William N. Ackley elected Grand Master. Grand Secretary re-elected.

A "Festival Communication" at Providence, June 24th, 1887, "is opened in ample form in the Entered Apprentice's Degree" by Grand Master Ackley, for the purpose of laying the corner-stone of the George Hall Free Library Building in Warren, R. I., to which place the Grand Lodge proceeds by rail.

The corner-stone is laid in due form and most interesting and eloquent addresses are delivered by Bro. George H. Kenyon, S. G. W., "Eulogy of Masonry," and Henry W. Rugg, G. C., "The Companionship of Books."

SOUTH CAROLINA—1886.

The one hundred and tenth Annual Communication was held at Charleston on December 14th, 1886, and was opened in ample form by Grand Master J. Adger Smyth.

The Grand Master's address is a remarkably able production, eloquent and instructive. He truly and pathetically says:

This has been an eventful year. No startling convulsion, no dangerous innovation has disturbed the peace and harmony of our Fraternity. But the world around us, physical and political, has been shaken from centre to circumference. Our deepest sympathies have been again and again evoked by sudden and repeated calamities, on land and on sea, which have brought suffering and ruin upon so many of our brethren.

We ourselves have drank deeply of this cup of sorrow, and quaffed its bitter draught to the very dregs.

When a year ago, as your Grand Master I bade you welcome, though our Grand East had been devastated by the resistless cyclone, and our Temple itself unroofed, I could still speak words of cheer, for no lives had been destroyed and our losses had been repaired. To-day, as I greet you, a more gloomy and depressing cloud environs us. The dark wing of the Death Angel casts its sombre shadow across our pathway, and we sit, with heads uncovered, in the ashes of our grief.

Terrible as was the tempest, no words can fitly portray the terrors of that awful night of August 31st, when suddenly, without a moment's warning, that most mysterious and mighty of all the forces of nature burst upon us and overwhelmed us in ruin and death. Those of us who experienced that night of agony can never forget its horrors and its sufferings.

But this dark background, with its awful shadows and gloomy tints, but serves, by contrast, to heighten and bring out the warmer, brighter colors in the picture. Black as was the cloud, big with the wails of helpless women and terrified children, and the sobbing heart-bursts of brave men, its other side is bright and glowing with tender love and helpful sympathy. God bless our noble brethren, who not only sorrowed with us, but stretched out at once the hand of kindness and relief.

Swiftly as the lightning sped the news of our terrible disaster over the wires, just so swiftly came back from warm hand and loving hearts all over our broad land offers of help, and words of sympathy and cheer. It were worth the while to have endured the suffering and the sorrow to have received the love and the kindness. "A Brother is born for adversity," is written in our greatest Light, and we can almost welcome the adversity to have had poured into our hearts such a tide of brotherly love and Masonic sympathy.

Our calamity has indeed been a blessing in disguise. It has proven that deep in all hearts there beats a common love and sympathy for our fellows in distress. Our country is one! There is no North, no South, no East, no West, when the cry of suffering is heard.

Before we could appreciate ourselves the appalling extent of our calamity and our needs, offers of assistance and enquiries as to our necessities came flashing over the wires. Our brethren waited not to hear our cries for help, but actuated by the glorious principles of Masonry, it was only needful for them to know there was suffering, and their loving hearts prompted them to relieve their brothers' want. The intrinsic value of our tenets was tested in this crucible of suffering, and was proved to be pure gold and a living reality.

He also informs us that "the responses were so prompt and generous, that in less than thirty days" he was compelled to send out another circular asking that *no more donations be sent*, and adds:

We also gave notice for several days through the columns of *The News and Courier* of our ability and desire to relieve all distress among the Fraternity in Charleston caused by the earthquake. We have made disbursements, answering ever call upon us that has been presented properly vouched, and have expended the sum of \$15,074.62 up to this present time.

Our distress at reading the following is mitigated by the concluding sentence:

Our Temple was so shattered by the earthquake that it was absolutely essential to take immediate steps to preserve it from further injury, as well as to restore it to such a condition that the Craft could safely hold their Communications within its walls. If it remained in its damaged condition, at any moment another severe shock might complete its ruin. I therefore instructed the Hall Committee to have the Temple promptly repaired, and the work is now nearly completed.

Of "Grand Lodge Jurisdiction," he writes:

Among the most important questions discussed by Grand Lodges and Masonic writers is that of Grand Lodge Jurisdiction. We hold that it is a matter of vital consequence to the unity and harmony of Masonry that all our Grand Lodges should observe and maintain the now well settled American doctrine of Grand Lodge Sovereignty and Jurisdiction. That whenever a new Grand Lodge is formed and recognized, it is the sovereign exclusive Masonic governing power over all the Lodges of Ancient Craft Masonry in the territory in which it is situated. We believe this not only a comity, but a duty which all Grand Lodges owe to themselves and to masonry. This is, as we have said, the American doctrine recognized by all the Grand Lodges in the United States and Canada.

But the foreign Grand Lodges do not hold this doctrine, and hence the complications that have existed, whenever in a foreign country there happen to be Subordinate Lodges holding charters from the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland or Ireland. They contend that such Subordinate Lodges are free to continue their allegiance to the Mother Grand Lodge irrespective of the fact that a new Grand Lodge has been formed in their territory, and that such Subordinate Lodges cannot be coerced or controlled by the new Grand Lodge. Necessarily this deprives the new Grand Lodge of its claim to having the *exclusive* governing power, and sustains such Subordinate Lodges in ignoring the control and even the existence of the new Grand Lodge, thereby producing endless complications.

We heartily concur in the above and had expressed similar views in this Report when commenting upon the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Quebec before reading his address.

Of "Perpetual Allegiance":

The doctrine of perpetual allegiance to their Lodge on the part of those applying for initiation, as well as those formally admitted into membership, is now insisted upon by nearly all the larger Jurisdictions. It is repudiated by only a very few Grand Lodges, and these for the most part in more newly settled States and Territories. We think it equally essential to the well being and harmonious growth of our Fraternity.

Of "Formation of New Grand Lodges":

This is a vital question, and affects the very existence of Masonry. The rule has been that not less than three Lodges in any territory where no Grand Lodge previously exists are competent to perform a Grand Lodge. Most of the older Jurisdictions now hold, however, that a majority of the Lodges in the new territory must concur in such a formation. Some even go so far as to hold that it must have the unanimous consent of all the Lodges in the new territory. We adhere to the majority rule. This would prevent a minority—as in the case of New South Wales—from attempting to coerce the majority.

The majority rule is certainly the safest.

He gives one decision which was approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence upon the following facts:

"A brother having removed from the State, his name was erased in due form from the rolls of the Lodge for non-payment of dues. Subsequently, he

forwarded the amount of his dues and asked for a dimit, but since then facts have come to light which made it doubtful whether a dimit should be granted him, or whether charges should not be preferred against him. The question asked is, can the Lodge restore him from permanent exclusion and prefer charges in his application for a dimit, or can his money be received and a receipt be sent him showing his dues are paid in full, and leave him an unaffiliated Mason without a dimit?"

I ruled as follows:

1st. The dues for the non-payment of which the brother was erased are a debt to the Lodge which he was morally and legally bound to pay. The Lodge, therefore, with propriety received them.

But in paying this debt he asks for re-affiliation and a dimit. If the Lodge could honorably recommend him, then it would be their duty to re-affiliate him and grant him a dimit.

But there are objections arising since his erasure, which makes it impossible for the Lodge to recommend him. Therefore it cannot issue the dimit.

The question now is, ought the Lodge to reinstate him in order to prefer charges against him?

The Lodge should not do so, except at the request of the brother himself, so as to give him an opportunity for defence and explanation; otherwise the Lodge would render itself liable to the charge, that an unfair advantage had been taken in order to acquire jurisdiction over this absent brother. He certainly did not expect this when he paid his dues and asked for a dimit. The Lodge should write him that certain things are said about him, and he must disprove them before he can be granted a dimit or recommendation. And if he desires an opportunity of defence he will be allowed to re-affiliate in order that charges may be preferred and the matter enquired into by the Lodge. But only on this ground can he re-affiliate. He can then decide for himself, and this is due him, as a trial in his Lodge will subject him to trouble and possible disadvantage on account of the distance at which he lives.

Of course, this cannot affect the right of the Lodge within whose geographical jurisdiction he now resides, to try and punish him for any offence as they may decide. That right is clearly laid down in Masonic Jurisprudence.

Among the Masonic dead, he reports Wilmot G. DeSaussure, P. G. M., and A. C. Small and James H. Rion, D. D. G. Masters.

The Special Committee to which were referred the "International Resolutions" of Louisiana, made a report which we set out in full, because of the general interest the matter is exciting:

1. As to the first resolution, they consider the word "territory" used therein as too indefinite. It might be construed to mean one or more counties of one of the United States, or some other subdivision evidently not contemplated. They, therefore, recommend that the resolution be amended as follows, and as so amended, that it be concurred in as enunciating true Masonic doctrine: "A majority of the Lodges regularly constituted in a State, territory or other like independent political division, where no Grand Lodge already exists, may organize a Grand Lodge: *Provided*, not less than three Lodges do concur therein, and all the Lodges within the said State, territory or other like independent political division have been duly notified of the intended action to form a Grand Lodge."

2. They recommend that the second resolution be also concurred in, with such verbal changes as will make it conform to the foregoing, so that it will read as follows:

"A Grand Lodge thus legally constituted in such new territory is sovereign

over the whole of that territory, and all the Lodges therein located must yield obedience to her and receive new charters from her, or be considered in insubordination and irregular."

3. The third resolution, embodying as it does merely a statement of the position occupied, and the claim asserted by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana calls for no positive action on the part of this Grand Lodge.

4. They are of opinion that the fourth resolution correctly sets forth the law as to the penal jurisdiction of Masonic Lodges, as recognized by this Grand Lodge. They, therefore, recommend that this Grand Lodge do express its concurrence therein, as stated in said resolution, as follows:

"Charges may be preferred to the Lodge in whose Jurisdiction a brother is sojourning who has violated any Masonic penal law, though he be not a member of that Lodge."

5. They dissent entirely with the principle laid down in the fifth resolution, as follows:

"That a profane who had applied for initiation and been rejected by a Masonic Lodge in one Grand Lodge Jurisdiction, having removed therefrom permanently, may, after he has acquired a legal Masonic residence, according to the rules of the Grand Lodge in whose Jurisdiction he has permanently removed, make application for initiation to the Lodge within whose Jurisdiction he is then living permanently, and domiciled not less than three years."

On the contrary, they conceive the true Masonic law to be, that a profane having applied to a Lodge for initiation and been rejected, cannot thereafter apply to any other Lodge, nor can he ever become a Mason, unless subsequently received by the very Lodge which at first rejected him. And that the preservation of this rule is essential to the maintenance unimpaired of the established principle that no one can become a Mason who is objected to by any of the Craft.

To permit a profane who is rejected by one Lodge to apply to another after three years, and then, if again rejected, to another after the same period, and so on, is merely to allow the chance, that perhaps he may find a Lodge where he is not well known to the members, and so an unworthy member be admitted.

They recommend that this resolution be non-concurred in.

6. As to the seventh resolution, they also dissent. It states:

"That no masonic body or brother may make or seek to enforce a claim for money against another masonic body or brother for expenses incurred in the performance of a masonic duty or masonic relief."

They consider this as expressing too strongly and broadly the idea of a non-assertion of masonic claims. While the enforcement of such claims is properly to be deprecated, still they can readily conceive of cases where the application of the rule as stated in this resolution would work hardship. They, therefore, recommend that it be non-concurred in.

7. The sixth, eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh resolutions, relating as they do to matters purely personal to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, call for no positive action from this Grand Lodge. They, therefore, recommend that they be received as information.

In conclusion, your Committee express their approval of the idea of adopting a series of masonic principles as a Code of Masonic International Grand Lodge Regulations. Such Regulations, wisely considered and adopted, will, in the opinion of your Committee, do much to promote uniformity in the government of our Order, and prevent dissensions in the Craft.

The following alludes to an old friend who, in years gone by, was a zealous,

intelligent and prominent participant in the proceedings of our Grand Lodge, its Senior Grand Warden in 1855-1856, and D. D. G. M. in 1857:

M. W. Bro. W. K. Blake, Past Grand Master, was announced, appropriately introduced and welcomed to the Grand East. Bro. Blake in eloquent language expressed his pleasure in again meeting his brethren in Grand Lodge.

We extend to Bro. Blake our most fraternal regards, and assure him of a hearty welcome in our Grand Lodge whenever he will honor us by his presence.

The Report on Correspondence from the pen of the Grand Secretary covers 101 pages, and is extremely able and interesting. We greatly admire it both in manner and substance, and derived much pleasure and profit from a perusal thereof. North Carolina receives a generous share of fraternal attention.

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected.

TENNESSEE—1887.

The seventy-third Annual Communication was held at Nashville on January 25th, 1887, and opened in ample form by Grand Master Thomas O. Morris.

The Grand Master's address presents many points of interest, and his decisions are in consonance with the law as administered here.

We commend the following extracts from his address :

Too many Lodges.—In my opinion we have too many Lodges. Masonry is too easy to get. It is right at our door, still the brethren will not attend. In times past when the brethren were compelled to ride twenty or thirty miles to attend Lodge meetings, the records show that the Lodges were full; the brethren met in social intercourse; were glad to see each other; pulled off their hats and were at home all day. When the time came to separate, they left feeling glad they had been there, and looked forward with joy to the next meeting. Now we, sometimes, meet with hardly a quorum present, transact business strictly, and as soon as the Lodge closes make a break for the door seemingly afraid that we will have to stop long enough to shake hands with each other. Let us get rid of this habit at once, and try the old way a while.

Non-affiliates.—Again, the army of non-affiliates is increasing. This class of Masons are willing to eat of the fruit, but are not willing to contribute anything to bear the burdens. I will be glad to see the day in Tennessee Masonry when every individual Master of a subordinate Lodge will have the nerve to say to any non-affiliate, who is one of his own free will, it matters not how high he may stand socially or otherwise, that you cannot enter the door of my Lodge-room.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is very complete, and well done, North Carolina receiving very honorable mention.

Caswell A. Goodloe was elected Grand Master, and the Grand Secretary re-elected.

TEXAS—1886.

The fifty-first Annual Communication begun at Houston on December 14th, 1886, and was opened in ample form by Grand Master Z. E. Coombes.

The Proceedings make a volume of 580 pages.

The address of the Grand Master is a comparatively short and plain statement of the condition and administration of affairs—the most pleasing part of which it relates; that to his call for “aid for the brethren of Galveston, their widows and orphans who were rendered houseless by the great fire of November 13, 1885,” far more was contributed than was needed.

A Lodge of Sorrow was also held “in memory of the dead who departed this life during the past Masonic year,” at which a most admirable oration was delivered by the Grand Orator, R. W., Bro. James B. Stubbs. We present the following extracts :

For a like purpose we are now met, to weave a chaplet of loving remembrance, fragrant with their kind deeds, and place it upon the altar of fraternal sorrow for those of our Brotherhood in this wide-spread jurisdiction, who, since our last communication, have folded their hands and to-night sleep beneath the calm starlight on the broad prairies and under the arching groves of our vast State. The Pale Reaper, as our records attest, has been busy among us, and has garnered home an ample harvest ; many voices are hushed which we loved to hear ; many bright eyes have closed to open here no more ; many hands are cold and pulseless that once warmly clasped ours, and many sad hearts throb wearily with their sense of loss and desolation. We know that they cannot return to us ; that they are “beyond the smiling and the weeping, beyond the waking and the sleeping, at rest and home,” but do we fully realize that we can go to them, and the precious solace which that divine hope should bring? Under a kind Providence, the blessed ministries of time, bearing healing on their wings for all our woes, will soften the griefs of those who mourn, yet it is true that the tear is set amid the jewels of the sky, while the laugh is lost on the waves of the air. Sorrow and suffering should ennoble and consecrate our lives, refining them from their dross, and, above all, teaching that the Consoler who alone can bind up the broken heart is He who is the resurrection and the life. Yet our nature, that proves its immortality by its yearning for an incorruptible future, by the same token is impelled to cherish the memory of those who have gone beyond the twilight obscurities of this world, and to offer that which is a mark of respect and a tribute of affection for our Brothers whose sun is set to rise upon another shore.

It may not be out of place to here briefly glance at that institution of which our honored dead were exponents and leaders, and which they loved so well. I will weary with no historic sketch. Now, if ever, is the time to consider its spirit and essence rather than its form, for symbolic Masonry, the foundation of all the branches of this world-wide Order, originating long ago in man's primeval home, in its teachings, rites and ceremonies, commemorates the saddest event of human history—the fall of man—and the most triumphant and glorious of the works of God, when Love's redeeming work was done, and the Lion of the tribe of Judah despoiled death of its power and the grave of its victory. This is sometimes called Blue Lodge Masonry, because it refers to the blue ethereal face of the universe as the symbol of the presence of God. It is a succession of allegories, which are the vehicles of great lessons in morality and philosophy. It is also defined as a system of morals, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. In the infancy of the world symbolism filled up the gap between thought and speech. Words were few, and the uncultivated mind strove to find fit expression for the thoughts which crowded it. The workman who wielded the twenty-four inch gauge, insensibly fell into the habit of dividing the hours of the day into certain duties. The gavel destroying irregularities, the compass marking certain boundaries, the square alike on every side,

the plumb unswerving in its action, the level reducing to a common surface, these, and many more, awakened moral analogies in these untaught minds struggling to the light—analogies which spoke a universal tongue that all men in the world's babel might understand, and which now enshrine cherished truths, sustained by the wisdom of ages. Upon these, illustrated by tradition, grew a system that has been most potent in the sacred cause of humanity. An institution, peaceable in all its works, for its very spirit is: "Peace on earth and good will among men;" fearing God, obeying the laws, it obtrudes neither its principles nor its practices on public notice. Seeking nothing from the world's favor, independent of its power or opinions, Masonry lives by a law unto itself, which for centuries it has preserved to be a light and a lesson to mankind. As it is of antiquity it receives from all enlightened and thinking men the homage that cultivated intelligence ever freely bestows on the ancient and the honorable. Looking at it from a philosophical point of view, we have reason to believe that Masonry is one of the most potent forces silently paving the way to the grand unity of all the nations of the earth.

"When the war drum shall throb no longer,
And the battle flag be furled,
In the parliament of men,
The federation of the world."

It recognizes no differences in language, none in creeds; rich and poor, great and humble alike sit down in its halls into which the distinctions and jealousies of the outer world do not enter. The vexed questions of politics and polemics are hushed at its peaceful threshold. Within men are judged by their innate worth and not by factitious distinctions of fortune. Open-handed, large-hearted, bound by no prejudice, and full of prophetic insight, Masonry is one of the great interpreters of progress. The world can never reach a point above its teachings, because it is itself the great embodied truth of a high humanity, casting off the weights which impede the race and stretching up and on to eternity.

Its sweet ministry begins at the cradle and ends only at the grave. It brings to the social circle all kindly affections, and in the glow of its cheerful smile the family becomes a type of heaven. It meets the stranger at the threshold with friendly words and generous hospitality. Through the tattered garments of need it discerns the form of a Brother, and, with open hand, offers a Brother's gift.

We note on memorial page 52 the following: "To the memory of 365 members of the Lodges of this Jurisdiction who departed this life during the current year"—exactly one for every day in the year.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence occupies 91 pages, but it is capital, and every page will repay one for reading it. The extracts are copious and well selected—always interesting, and at times amusing. For instance, on page 503 is the following:

We copy the opening paragraph of the review of Illinois, because while true, the covert humor in it deserves to be preserved:

With Brother Anderson in our mind, we commenced our examination of these proceedings by reading the prayer of the Grand Chaplain. We found it comparatively short and very appropriate. There was one omission, however; he prayed for the Grand Master, the other Grand Officers, the Representatives of the Lodges, but omitted the Committee on Correspondence. We think if the Grand Chaplain were called upon to prepare one report, he would never make *that* omission again.

We have never ourself "gone the whole hog" in that line, but have "tried it on" just far enough to know that the committee *needs*, if it does not always *deserve*, to be prayed for.

To the sentiments expressed in the last paragraph, we utter a fervent Amen ! Especially when we turn right over to page 509 and find the following :

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina decided that an appeal *from an acquittal* could not be taken. Of this Brother Drummond says :

We think the decision of the Grand Lodge unsound in principle, contrary to the practice of the large majority of Grand Lodges, and, moreover, directly in the teeth of the Charges and Regulations, which give an appeal to every member of a Lodge who feels aggrieved at its decision, without any such limit as has been introduced in later times by some Grand Lodges—the outgrowth of the mode of procedure under the court of law in many jurisdictions. How reasoning, thinking men, who would be just and fair-minded, could come to a different conclusion we cannot conceive.

And we concur.

Notwithstanding the lack of a proper conception of us on the part of Bro. Drummond, concurred in by the Committee of Texas, we still think the Grand Lodge of North Carolina composed of "*reasoning, thinking men, who would be just and fair-minded.*" That is the only allusion in the Report to North Carolina, as there is no review of her Proceedings. Perhaps if there had been, the Committee would have learned more about her, than through the medium of Maine, and been less disposed to aid and abet in the above assault. However, we take it kindly, for Masons as well as lawyers will differ in opinion, and hope that some day we may do something that will meet the approbation of these two jurisdictions, so separated in geographical position, but so allied in thought. In the meantime, we tender to both our fraternal regards and thanks for the delightful reading they have afforded us in their respective Reports on Foreign Correspondence.

Bro. A. J. Rose was elected Grand Master, and the Grand Secretary was re-elected.

VERMONT—1887.

A Special Communication convened on "Bird's Mountain," on August 27, 1886, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of a Masonic Monument, and was opened in ample form by Grand Master Mark O. Perkins. The corner stone was laid after the ancient form and ceremonies of the Craft, and an oration delivered by Bro. Henry H. Smith, P. G. M.

A picture of the Monument is given in the Proceedings.

Special Communication at Vergennes, January 13, 1887, opened in ample form by Grand Master, for the purpose of the burial of Bro. Samuel Willson, P. G. Lecturer.

The ninety-fourth Annual Communication was held at Burlington, on June 25, 1887, and opened in ample form by Grand Master Perkins.

The Grand Master in his address reports "good tidings as to the condition of the Craft in that State" and cordial and fraternal relation with other jurisdictions, "except possibly in a single instance."

The honored dead of that and other jurisdictions receives fraternal consideration in eloquent and appropriate terms.

In Quebec *vs.* England, he says: "I believe Vermont cannot consistently act otherwise than to stand shoulder to shoulder with Quebec to the last," and recommends that the Grand Lodge of Vermont "fully endorse the action of the Grand Lodge of Quebec in its proclamation of non-intercourse with the Grand Lodge of England."

Among the dispensations granted,

A dispensation was issued to Masonic Union Lodge of Troy to convene on the summit of Jay Peak, on the 9th of September last, for the purpose of conferring one of the degrees. A cordial invitation to meet with the brethren at that time was necessarily declined because of other engagements calling me out of the State. Of this Assembly, W. Bro. H. D. Chamberlain writes, that although the day was rainy and the mountain capped with clouds, some fifty members of the fraternity were present, representing twelve different Lodges in Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, and the Dominion of Quebec. He also says, "the first degree was conferred on a candidate who can boast of having been made an Entered Apprentice among the clouds. We all feel highly pleased with our efforts, and each one present subscribed one dollar to be used in fixing up a permanent place on the Peak for holding a yearly meeting." Judging from further reports, the enthusiasm manifested by the brethren on that occasion has since developed into a deeper and renewed interest in Free Masonry which promises well for the future, and strengthens me in the opinion that the dispensation to meet "on a high hill" was not unwisely granted.

The Grand Master considers the Past Master's Degree essential to the installation of a Master elect.

The seven decisions reported are sound.

The following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Vermont most emphatically endorses the action of the Grand Lodge of Quebec in its struggle to maintain the well recognized principle of sovereign jurisdiction in the Province of Quebec.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge extends its fraternal aid and co-operation to our sister Grand Lodge in the endeavor to maintain that great principle of Masonic law which is the foundation and corner-stone of the sovereign power and independence of all Grand Lodges.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Vermont disapproves the action of the Grand Lodge of England in its refusal to recognize the sovereign independence of the Grand Lodge of Quebec as unmasonic and as doing violence to universal and long established Masonic law.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Vermont hereby suspends all Masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of England, and all Lodges and Masons claiming to owe allegiance to it, until it recedes from its said unmasonic action.

The Report on Correspondence, by Bro. L. C. Butler, P. G. M., is written in a terse, clear, pointed style, and presents a review of the Proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges, pleasant to read.

Under CALIFORNIA, he says, which we endorse :

Masonic trials are *sui generis*. Paid attorneys, legal quibbles and technicalities, forms of law and court proceedings are all out of place in them. The end sought is the fact, justice. Kindness, charity—not revenge or hatred—enter into the trial. The accused brother is tried by his brethren, who have no end in view but the vindication of the principles of right and of Masonic reverence for the good, before the world. In accomplishing this end the forms and ceremonies of criminal courts are unnecessary and out of place. To modernize Masonry in this respect is to compromise its dignity and reduce its jurisprudence to the level of the petty law suit.

The Committee on Jurisprudence, of California, having presented a report in regard to the Quebec-England difficulty, endorsing the action of the three Lodges and the Grand Lodge of England, and pronouncing the action of the Grand Lodge of Quebec as “without the sanction of any landmark or general law of Masonry,” Bro. Butler remarks :

We confess to some surprise upon reading the conclusion announced by the committee of this Grand Lodge, for we had supposed that if any question of Masonic jurisprudence or usage was settled it was this one of Grand Lodge sovereignty, or in other words, the complete and unquestioned jurisdiction of each and every Grand Lodge over the Craft within the limits of their boundaries. We were aware that the question is not settled so far as foreign Grand Lodges were concerned, for the instances are too frequent and too recent, wherein concurrent jurisdiction of different Grand Lodges is claimed and recognized by them. But that it was questioned among American Grand Lodges is only brought to our notice by this utterance from the Pacific Slope, and the adoption of the report of the committee by the Grand Lodge of California, which places that Grand Lodge in line with European Grand Lodges in opposition to the otherwise unanimously expressed opinion of all the Grand Lodges of the United States and the countries immediately adjoining it. In our apprehension there is no middle or conservative ground to be occupied on this question. The line is sharp and prominent. Either each Grand Lodge is sovereign in its jurisdiction, whatever that may be, or it is not. If *it is*, then no other Grand Lodge has a right to invade it, and all Masons within its limits are bound to be in obedience to it. If *it is not*, then any Grand Lodge may institute lodges within its borders, and when three lodges or more are in accord, and choose so to do, they may establish a Grand Lodge and claim concurrent jurisdiction with Grand Lodges already existing, or which may at any time be organized. In our view the American idea of Grand Lodge sovereignty is the only true Masonic solution of the question. And as applied to the questions at issue between the Grand Lodges of Quebec and England it means simply that the former has the Masonic right to the obedience of all Masons within her jurisdiction, and that if they are recalcitrant and disobedient, unwilling to accept the fraternal advice of their parent Grand Lodge and yield homage to the Masonic powers that be in that jurisdiction, it is the duty of the Grand Lodge to withhold from them Masonic recognition and privileges.

Under DAKOTA, he says :

The Grand Master has rendered three decisions during the year, all of which were approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence and the Grand Lodge save the first, which was that “a person blind in one eye, the other being good, may be made a Mason.” We approve the action of the Grand Lodge, believing it to be in accordance with the ancient landmarks of Masonry.

New York, on the contrary, endorsed the opinion of the Grand Master.

Under VIRGINIA, he says :

Bro. Drinkard is puzzled over the first decision of Grand Master Perkins, which is that "a Master cannot resign, nor can he dimit from his Lodge until after his successor has been regularly elected and duly installed." The "puzzle" is easily solved. As we understand Masonic law the Master of a Lodge is chosen for a limited period of time, during which no "vacancy" can occur in his office, save by death. In his absence, or in case of his death, the Senior Warden succeeds to the East by right, and fills the South *pro tem*. Vermont Masons do not elect Masters merely for the honor it confers. When they are "regularly elected and duly installed," they are not at liberty to vacate their office by "resignation" or by a "dimit." And when the annual election occurs the Master succeeds himself, or installs a newly elected brother in his place.

We agree with Bro. Butler, provided the word "South," in the part of the sentence "fills the South *pro tem*," is changed to *West*, (which he probably meant), as we think that the Senior Warden on going to the East fills the West *pro tem*, the Junior Warden remaining in the South.

North Carolina, 1886, is very pleasantly noticed. The Grand Master's address is quoted, and his decisions commented upon. After citing one "that no dispensation will be granted to furnish a Lodge under dispensation to work with less than seven members," he asks the question : "How about the Lodge after it has been duly constituted? Can it work then with less than seven?" We answer, it cannot.

The oration by Col. Staples, upon the occasion of laying the corner stone of the United States Court House, at Greensboro, is pronounced "splendid," and a long extract therefrom inserted in the report.

Of the Orphan Asylum, he says :

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina can do better than the Gracchian mother, for in its Orphan Asylum it has over two hundred jewels in like paternal condition, "who are the living evidences of the practical charity of Freemasonry, rescued from lives of poverty and vice, comfortably clad, fed with wholesome food, instructed in useful labor," and by and by to march forth into the world, into society and citizenship, adorned with the most precious and glittering jewels of sound bodies, sound minds, gems of cultivation, charity and brotherly love. In this grand enterprise the Fraternity of that jurisdiction have succeeded in enlisting the sympathies of their law-makers, and securing their co-operation to the extent of ten thousand dollars in aid of their beneficent work, thus interesting the people of the entire State in this grand benefaction. The Grand Lodge appropriated two thousand dollars in aid of the Asylum.

He notes the fact that our Centennial was held at the Annual Communication of 1887.

Bro. Alfred A. Hall elected Grand Master. The Grand Secretary re-elected.

VIRGINIA—1886.

The one hundred and ninth Annual Communication was held at Richmond, on December 13th, 1886, and was opened in ample form by Grand Master Francis H. Hill. The Proceedings make a volume of 397 pages.

The Grand Master's address is a very able and interesting exposition of Masonic affairs in that Grand Jurisdiction. Among other things it contains eleven decisions on as many different questions submitted to him. As the second relates to a new subject which may become important, and is the first decision upon it which has come to our attention, we quote it :

What action should a Lodge take when one Mason undertakes to "boycott another?"

In reply, I said: "The question of 'boycotting' is one that is assuming immense proportions in the United States, and is likely to become a disturbing element in the politics of the country. That we, as a Masonic organization, should endeavor to keep clear of all political alliances and complications; but when cases of that character shall arise between Masons which shall disturb the peace and harmony of the Fraternity, *and a gross wrong shall be perpetrated by one Mason upon another*, it will be the duty of the Lodge to take cognizance of it, prefer charges against the wrong-doer, and, if he be found guilty, to inflict such punishment as is authorized by the Grand Lodge for unmasonic conduct."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of R. W., Bro. W. F. Drinkard, and is quite elaborate and interesting.

North Carolina, 1886, receives attention, and in the review thereof we find the following :

The Grand Lodge decided wrongfully, we think, that there could be no appeal from the Grand Lodge in a general verdict of "Not Guilty" rendered in a Subordinate Lodge. It is the duty of the Grand Lodge in all cases to enter up such verdicts as the Subordinate Lodges *ought to have rendered*.

Evidently the word "*from*," after the word "appeal," was intended to be "*to*." With this correction the position of our Grand Lodge, stated more exactly, is "that in no case from a general verdict of not guilty can *an accuser or any Master Mason* take an appeal to the Grand Lodge."

The question came again before our Grand Lodge at its last Communication, and the unanimous report of the Committee on Jurisprudence approving the previous decision was adopted. (See Proceedings 1887, page 47.)

Bro. William F. Drinkard was elected Grand Master and the Grand Secretary was re-elected.

WASHINGTON—1887.

A Special Communication was held at Spokane Falls on April 8th, 1887, to perform burial services over the remains of Bro. J. C. Hanna, P. M. of Spokane Lodge, No. 34, and Bro. J. Gilbert Higgins, of Bangor, Maine, (sojourner,) both of whom had been accidentally killed. The Grand Master presided.

The thirtieth Annual Communication was held at Vancouver, June 1st, 1887, and opened in ample form by Grand Master Louis Ziegler.

The Grand Master's address is remarkably fine and fully instructive as to matters within his jurisdiction. He opens with an eloquent allusion to the

beauty and grandeur of the surrounding scenery, which he says "inculcate a moral truth and teach a lesson of real life." The fraternal dead are commemorated in fitting terms. As to "Special Dispensations," he says :

During the year I have refused many applications for dispensations to act upon petitions and confer degrees, regardless of time, and in nearly every instance I have refused to exercise the dispensing power.

Time must be out of joint with some of our Lodges, judging from the eager haste manifested in the dangerous desire to augment their numbers. Many seemed offended at the Grand Master to know that his auxiliary aid to lend more speed to this perilous haste was denied them, ever claiming that their particular demand was righteous and should be relieved from the restricting powers of the law.

He reports two decisions in which we fully concur.

We regret exceedingly the report he makes of acts of gross insubordination and disrespect on the part of two of the Lodges, which received the attention and consideration of the Grand Lodge. We cannot help expressing surprise at the *limited* powers of the Grand Master in that jurisdiction, and agree with Grand Master Ziegler, when he says :

But with one fell swoop our Constitution disarms the Grand Master of the disciplinary powers "in any case," thereby refusing him the essential means to carry into effect the requirements of the law and the duties of him demanded by the Constitution of Masonry.

Indeed, it is passing strange and difficult beyond conception to divine or judge the controlling powers of the mind of the framers of our Constitution that induced them to adopt as a principle of law that which leaves the executive officer (of any institution), especially of a Grand Lodge, without executive force.

He reports 43 chartered Lodges, with a total membership of 1,807 Master Masons.

The Report on Correspondence is by Bro. Louis Ziegler, the retiring Grand Master, and we enjoyed reading it. It is well written, and discusses matters clearly, yet concisely.

In the introduction, he says :

The great questions which agitate the Masonic mind of to-day are few yet very important, and require the most thoughtful consideration, prominent among which are the doctrines of Grand Lodge independence and absolute sovereignty ; the powers and prerogatives of the Grand Master ; perpetual jurisdiction over rejected material, and strict physical qualifications of candidates. To all these your best attention is invited in the perusal of these pages, as they are the subject of discussion by eminent Masons in Europe and America and are worthy of our best thoughts. The doctrine of Grand Lodge sovereignty and independence is involved in the very unpleasant relations existing between the Grand Lodges of England and Quebec. In the solution of this problem, measured by the American doctrine of exclusive Grand Lodge sovereignty and jurisdiction, there can be but one sentiment and one voice. England should recede from her unwarranted position and Quebec's rights must be respected.

He does not see anything unlawful or contrary to usage in public installation, and neither do we, though Pennsylvania does.

Under DAKOTA, he says, speaking of a decision of the Grand Master :

He reported three decisions. Numbers two and three were approved by the Committee on Jurisprudence, but number one, which reads, "A person blind of one eye, the other being good, may become a Mason," was disapproved by the Committee, and we are glad to note that the Grand Lodge adopted the report of the Committee. It is truly a surprise to us to learn that a Mason of Bro. Blatt's marked ability and skill should so fall by the wayside of error, as to be guilty of advocating such palpable violations of one of the oldest Regulations extant, which has around it the hallowed sanctity of a Landmark which states clearly that "no Master shall take an apprentice unless he be a perfect youth having no maim or defect." By "perfect youth" we mean, and believe the Regulation means, that the applicant shall have no maim or defect of such a nature as to be palpably cognizant by the senses and which may hinder him in his work, "of serving his Master's Lord." It does not refer, as some wish to contort it, to liver, spleen and bowels and *sick*, but is does mean, as we understand it, to refer to all apparent defects and bodily infirmities.

We agree.

Under MARYLAND, he says :

The Committee on Grand Master's Address say in regard to the exercise of his inherent powers: "The inherent power of the Grand Master has been a subject of considerable discussion among the various Grand Lodges for some years past, but in Maryland the decisions of Grand Masters and the action of the Grand Lodge supporting the same, presents an unbroken line of precedents in favor of upholding the prerogatives of the Grand Master from time immemorial. We have never subscribed to the latter day theory of limiting these prerogatives in Maryland, and the action of the Grand Master if carried to its proposed finale, would have been in accord with the views of his predecessors.' We, for one, will subscribe to the above declaration with all our heart, and say that it is good sound law.

And we, for another, say "that it is good law," and so will Bro. Drummond, we take it.

Bro. Ziegler is the first and only one who has noticed thus far the Centennial Communication of North Carolina, and opens in the following pleasant strain :

Another century plant has bloomed and its fragrance is inhaled everywhere by the Craft. The sweet odors have reached us here.

He says Grand Master Busbee's address "is a very able and scholarly paper," notes many points, and makes quite a lengthy extract

He further says :

On the evening of the 12th of January the Grand Lodge celebrated its centennial by a public oration in the hall of the house of Representatives in the State Capitol. The oration was delivered by Bro. E. S. Martin, of Wilmington, in the presence of a large number of brethren and citizens.

This was succeeded by a fine banquet at the Yarbboro House, where many guests enjoyed the present, and others the reminiscences of the dim past. The oration is historically instructive and good.

The Report on Correspondence is again from the pen of Bro. Donald W. Bain. In this noble work he seems to be alone. Where is good King Duncan? And where is his brother Malcom? Yet in the absence of the others he seems a hero within himself. He conquers the reader as he goes with his engaging style of writing. He reviews closely and courteously and is deferential in his discussions. His report is very able, and Washington for 1886 receives a kind and fraternal notice. Our Proceedings are characterized as "very good," and Bro. Reed's report as one of the best of the year.

The junior member of the committee (Martin) reviewed these Proceedings, hence the foregoing extract. The chairman, however, must say that he was not alone in the preparation of the former report, but was assisted by his associate, Bro. H. M. Cowan, who did a full share of the work.

Many good things are scattered through the Report which we would like to extract, but we must go to the "conclusion," in which he says, expressing our own sentiments:

The labor required to prepare this report is more than can be properly estimated without experience; yet, if we have succeeded in pleasing our readers and placing before them matters of interest which adds to their stock of information, we shall be amply paid for the nights of vigils and hours of labor which we have bestowed "while heavy sleep fell down on other men."

Bro. Joseph Smith elected Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected.

WISCONSIN—1887.

The forty-third Annual Communication convened in Milwaukee on June 14, 1887, and was opened in ample form by Grand Master Eugene S. Elliott.

The Grand Master's address is a plain statement of official acts with recommendations.

A new lodge room was dedicated, the corner-stone of a soldier's monument at Benton laid, and a lodge constituted.

Applications for dispensations to form new lodges, the Grand Master discouraged, being of opinion that it would not be for the interest of the Fraternity to grant them.

He reports twenty-eight decisions, which relate mostly to local laws. The first and twentieth were not sustained by the Grand Lodge, and when we read them we thought there was *error*.

He reports 13,000 Master Masons as members of Lodges.

The Proceedings are confined to local matters.

The Report on Correspondence is by Bro. Duncan McGregor, who says it is his first. It is a brief but well written report, and we regret that North Carolina finds no place therein. Will forgive him, however, on condition that he does not carry out his threat to make this report his last, for from the ease with which he handles the subject, he might well exclaim, "My foot is on my native heath, and my name is McGregor!"

Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected.

WYOMING—1886.

The twelfth Annual Communication was held at Cheyenne on December 7th, 1886, and opened in due form by Deputy Grand Master J. H. Goddard.

The address of the Grand Master was received too late to be considered by the Grand Lodge, but is inserted in the Proceedings. It is short and relates only to his official acts, and reports a flourishing condition of the lodges. No decisions are reported.

The Grand Orator, Bro. Wm. Ware Peck, delivered a very able and instructive oration, from which we make the following extracts:

Prior to 715 B. C. the Masonic Order is more or less traditional and mythical. It reaches back into the deep shadows of the Roman and Grecian antiquities—back into the still deeper shadows of the Hebrew antiquities—back into the yet deeper shadows of the Egyptian antiquities—and has no complete historic record. But these things are facts, that during those anterior periods architecture and masonry were united arts—that they were one art—that the art flourished—that it was vocationally pursued by fraternities—that those fraternities were bodies, composed of educated architects and skilled operatives—that they had distinctive constitutions and laws, special privileges, and secret and ceremonial ritualism, symbolism and initiation—that they very largely represented the intellect and culture of their ages—that they were a distinguished and exclusive class, and were held in high repute.

The Order first emerged upon the face of history in 715 B. C., in fully defined and distinct actuality—in full bodied maturity; a fact, strongly suggestive of the idea, that it had had a far extended pre-existence.

Since that date its evidence has been a complete historic record; its existence continuous; its character complexed by the aspects of the hither ages; and its growth—at times disturbed by dynastic change, civil commotion and persecution—expansive and powerful; from the center rooting down and out into civilistic progress, and interweaving through the entire social fabric. Wherever the Order existed in the East, its necessity and importance secured to it, by papal bulls and royal grants, the several rights of wage-regulation, monopoly and separate jurisdiction, and other and valuable immunities. Its nomenclature became varied and modernized. Its members came to be called Masons, as a name more vocationally significant; and then Free Masons, because of their exemptions. The different fraternities occupied lodges near their constructive work, in which they dwelt, designed and held meeting; and the term lodge came to signify the fraternity. In Great Britain superior lodges were formed, as distinct from the inferior, or common lodges—the latter being occupied by the operative Masons—the former by the designers, who were architects and speculative Masons, and were admitted because of special talent and attainment.

I have spoken of an Order, whose traditions stretch far beyond the Advent; render it splendid, noble and venerable; and are among the choicest of the earth; of an Order, whose history is characterized by genius, talent, learning, skilled labor and faithful diligence and pure morals, and by virtue, rising even to heroic energy; of an Order, which princes have deemed it a privilege to favor, and rulers a necessity to foster; of an Order, which has largely promoted the success of the race, and taught man his capacity for advancement. But for the Pleasant Land beyond The River, one would wish to live his thousand years and take part in the splendid advances, that shall fill the future of humanity. But in that Pleasant Land beyond The River, with enhanced capacities, we shall view and take in, not alone the wealth of a single earth, but the riches and glories of a thousand worlds.

We are pleased to see our young sister of the far West coming to the front so handsomely. Eloquence and knowledge, it seems, are not the possession of the East alone.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is brief, but North Carolina receives a generous share of fraternal attention.

Bro. N. R. Davis was elected Grand Master and Bro. W. L. Kuykendall Grand Secretary.

ENGLAND.

Quarterly Communication at Freemasons' Hall, London, 1st December, 1886. The Earl of Carnarvon, Pro. Grand Master, on the Throne. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, Grand Secretary,

Quarterly Communication, March 2, 1887. The Earl Amherst, Pro. Grand Master, on the Throne.

The Prince of Wales elected Grand Master for the year ensuing.

The Annual Grand Festival was held at Freemasons' Hall, London, April 27, 1887.

Quarterly Communication, June 1st, 1887.

Special Communication, June 13th, 1887, and the fiftieth anniversary of the accession of Queen Victoria to the throne was properly noticed.

SCOTLAND—1887.

Quarterly Communication at Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, May 5, 1887. The Earl of Mar and Kellie, P. G. M., on the Throne.

Colonel Sir Archibald C. Campbell, Grand Master; D. Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary.

Quarterly Communication at Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, August 4, 1887. Grand Master Colonel Sir Archibald C. Campbell, Baronet, presiding. Nothing of general interest reported.

The following Proceedings came too late to be inserted in alphabetical order :

OHIO—1887.

The seventy-eighth Annual Communication, held at Dayton, October 25th, 1887, Grand Master Williams presiding. The Grand Master's address is a full and complete presentation of matters in his jurisdiction, and is interesting and instructive. He has not been called upon to record the death of any present or past Grand officers of that jurisdiction, though he alludes in fitting terms to the distinguished dead elsewhere. He dedicated some halls, laid some corner-stones of public structures, but refused to lay corner-stones of "private manufacturing establishments," deeming it not proper to do so, which was approved by the Grand Lodge; granted and refused dispensations for new Lodges; suspended and arrested the charters of some Lodges; attended the Masonic Convention at Chicago June 22, 1887, and reports the following :

The Convention was held at the time named in the call, and twenty-five Grand Lodges were represented. The three days were profitably spent in the discussion of topics of general interest to the Craft, individual views being exchanged on the questions of the physical perfection of candidates, perpetual jurisdiction, rules of avouchment, etc. No resolutions were adopted with reference to the above topics, but the following was adopted with but one dissenting vote, viz.:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons is the supreme and governing power in and over Freemasonry within its territorial jurisdiction; and that the landmarks of Freemasonry, together with the laws, edicts, regulations and statutes of such Grand Lodge, constitute the only law and authority for the government of Freemasonry within said jurisdiction, and all constituent Lodges, all members thereof, and Masons residing within said jurisdiction, must obey and conform thereto.

Resolved further, That there is no power or authority in or over Freemasonry above the legitimate and duly-organized Grand Lodge of F. and A. M., nor is it within the power of any body, organization, or collection of Masons to assume to exercise such power or authority.

He alludes to the "Masonic Rebellion in Connecticut" of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, and asks a reference to special committee. He reports four decisions, governed perhaps by the local law of Ohio, as the Grand Lodge approved them, but not in accord, as we think, with the general law. For example, he holds that, "Only a member of the Lodge of which the accused is a member has a right to prefer charges." We thought that any Master Mason could prefer charges, and, as Mackey says, "it is not necessary that the accuser should be a member of the same Lodge." And so the *Ancient Charges* of 1722.

And again, he holds that a Lodge has no right or authority to instruct its Master how he should vote on a given question in the Grand Lodge. Article X, *General Regulations* or *Ancient Constitutions*, provides that "The majority

of every particular Lodge * * * shall have the privilege of giving instructions to their Master and Wardens," etc. And Masonic History furnishes plain reasons for the rule. He urges that attention be given to the History of that Jurisdiction, and says :

Commencing with Bro. Rufus Putnam, and coming down to the present time, there have been thirty-four Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge, all of whom are dead but eight; and of how many of those who are gone has ever an effort at an obituary been written? It is true that while our brethren are living, their lives being before us, we do not need to see them on paper; but it is not well to wait too long after they are dead before making the record of their lives, for fear the material for such may slip from our grasp.

Let us have biographical sketches of the zealous Brethren who brought our Grand Lodge into existence, as well as of those who have fostered it during these long years. Reminiscences of the early days of Masonry in Ohio, and thrilling events of anti-masonic times can now be furnished; a few years hence, and they can not. Let us commence now; let us follow the example set us by older Grand Lodges, and send down to posterity something more than the bare record of our transactions.

Bros. William Hacker, P. G. M. of Indiana, and J. Soule Smith, G. M. of Kentucky, with other distinguished visitors, were received with Grand Honors.

The Committee on Jurisprudence made a report on the "Masonic Rebellion in Connecticut," which was adopted, approving the action of the Grand Lodge of that State, and recommending that all intercourse with "the late Hiram Lodge, No. 1," be forbidden.

The report on Correspondence, covering 118 pages, by Bro. Wm. M. Cunningham, P. G. M., is a most interesting and valuable report—one which we read with much pleasure and profit, and from which we would like to make many extracts if we had space and time. We must, however, take the following as worthy of most careful consideration :

Those important questions, however, that affect the general membership and the elevation of the Craft cannot, perhaps, be too often mentioned. In this connection, there is a prevailing idea among many Masons, who do not trouble themselves with a knowledge of Masonic literature, that our ancient institution is only similar to the thousand societary and social organizations throughout the land. These should be taught by "precept and example" that its object is different and its aims are higher. As well said by M. W. Brother Fellows, of Louisiana, "WE ARE A BROTHERHOOD—not an association." Our Lodges, therefore, should be purged of the "evil-doers," who may have surreptitiously gained an entrance therein, and the world at large taught that our Fraternity will not tolerate the liar, the slanderer, the impiously profane, the inebriate, the dishonest, or the libertine.

The ballot-box should be more carefully guarded, and an applicant should be known to possess some positive qualities for good other than the negative one that "nothing can be said against him," or the general plea that he is a "good fellow," without any further recommendation.

The subject of non-affiliation is doubtless still the most important question agitating Grand Lodges throughout the United States, and although it has been under discussion for over thirty years in Grand Lodges, but little has as yet been accomplished in the removal of the evil. That it *can* be removed is doubtless true, provided that its cause is known and removed. And, in this connection, in the opinion of your Committee, there is not only one cause, but many.

First. Those members who do not and cannot appreciate Freemasonry, or be governed by its laws, naturally gravitate to non-affiliation, and the sooner they do so the better it is for the institution; as otherwise they become disloyal, foment discord or advocate innovations.

Second. In all Grand Lodges where excessive dues and onerous assessments are required of the brethren, the ratio of non-affiliation seems to be the greatest.

Third. In Subordinate Lodges where long sessions and late hours are the rule, the wives and families of members become prejudiced against the Fraternity, the members themselves become tired, and dismissals are the result.

Fourth. The absence of the social element, of fraternal greetings in the Lodge-room and elsewhere, and of the warm-hearted welcome to the visiting brother, particularly if a stranger, due to every Mason, is another cause of disgust to the thinking Mason, and adds to the list of dismissals. In this connection also, when a formal introduction has not been had, "to have met in Lodge" should always be deemed a sufficient warrant among Masons for brotherly recognition in the Lodge and the courtesies of a gentleman elsewhere.

Fifth. In those Subordinate Lodges where the brethren or their families are seldom or never invited to participate or assist in social entertainments, literary exercises, or other rational enjoyments, dismissals are a natural sequence.

Sixth. In the Lodge, hasty and imperfect work, too many candidates at the same time, illiterate rendering of the "work" and lectures, the absence of any explanatory remarks or other intellectual exercises, and the absence of the banquet feature, are but other causes of the evil.

North Carolina (1887) receives most gracious and fraternal attention. Grand Master Busbee's address is complimented and extracts made therefrom. The Centennial celebration is pleasantly noticed, and "the Report on Foreign Correspondence, by the R. W. Grand Secretary, assisted by Bro. H. M. Cowan," pronounced "an admirable digest of the Proceedings."

The Grand Master and Grand Secretary re-elected.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The sixteenth Annual Communication, held at Nanaimo, June 18th, 1887, Grand Master Wm. Dalby presiding. The Grand Master's Address is devoted to local matters, and reports the death of R. W. J. C. Hughes, S. G. W.; the general prosperity of the Order very good, the receipts nearly double, and the membership very largely increased.

Proceedings on local matters and a Revised Constitution adopted.

No report on Correspondence.

Bro. Alexander R. Milne elected Grand Master; Grand Secretary re-elected.

ARIZONA—1887.

The sixth Annual Communication commenced at Tombstone on November 8th, 1887, Grand Master M. W. Kales presiding.

The Grand Master's address is a plain, but pleasantly written document, and presents a cheerful condition of affairs. He says:

Another year has passed; and while it will not figure as an eventful one in the history of this Grand Lodge, we may congratulate ourselves that our ranks have not been invaded by the relentless hand of death; that no calamities have

befallen our people ; that no question has arisen to disturb the harmony of our Order, or to vex the minds of its members ; and that there is manifestly a growing regard in this Territory for the traditions and teachings of Freemasonry.

No decisions reported. One dispensation to open a Lodge granted and two refused. Foreign relations friendly. The proceedings relate to local matters. The report on Correspondence, by Bro. Morris Goldwaters, is an agreeable and interesting review of the proceedings of forty-five Grand Lodges, and if time permitted, we would like to make extracts. North Carolina's Centennial is most pleasantly noticed.

Bro. Francis A. Shaw elected Grand Master, and the Grand Secretary re-elected.

COLORADO—1887.

The Twenty-seventh Annual Communication was held at Denver, September 20th, 1887, Grand Master Albert H. Branch presiding.

The Grand Master's address is short and devoted to local affairs. He says cordial and fraternal feeling exists towards other Grand Jurisdictions, and that there has been no marked increase in membership, owing to the fact that the Lodges have been "weeding out their delinquent members." Three dispensations to form new Lodges were granted. Four decisions reported, in one of which he says : "A brother can be elected to office whether present or absent, but must be installed in person." Here and elsewhere an officer may be installed by proxy, and we thought this the universal rule. He further says :

2d. I am also of the opinion that a law should be enacted for the protection of Lodges, expelling any brother who has been or may be indicted and convicted of any crime under the laws of this State.

Under our present laws it is necessary to prefer charges and have a trial before any brother can be expelled.

Any brother who has committed a crime of sufficient importance to be taken notice of and considered by our civil officers, and upon receiving a fair and impartial trial, is convicted and sentenced either to a county jail or the State penitentiary, is unworthy of being called a Mason and of receiving any Masonic recognition, and the Lodge to which he belonged should not be burdened with giving said brother a Masonic trial.

In this we could never concur, and we find that the Committee on Jurisprudence reported adversely upon it, and the report was adopted.

The report on Correspondence, presented by Bro. George Wyman, covers 74 pages, and is a very interesting review of the proceedings of forty-six Grand Lodges.

North Carolina, 1887, receives most fraternal notice, the Grand Master's address complimented, and the report on Correspondence said to be "well written and indulging in no unnecessary comments."

The late hour at which this report reaches us, on the eve of going to press ourselves, prevents our calling attention to many things of interest therein.

Bro. George K. Kimball elected Grand Master ; Grand Secretary re-elected.

KENTUCKY—1837.

A formidable volume greets us, in which we find that the Eighty-eighth Annual Communication was held at Louisville, October 18th, 1887, Grand Master James W. Hopper presiding.

The Grand Master in his address alludes thus to the death of a distinguished Mason :

Among the dead of the past year was Dr. Garrett Davis Buckner, Past Grand Master of Masons in Kentucky, who died suddenly at Lexington, where he resided, on the morning of the 1st of May last. He was a man who, in an eminent degree, embodied and illustrated the virtues which our order inculcates. In the formation of his character, wisdom, strength and beauty combined to raise, fashion and adorn a spiritual edifice well worthy of the admiration of his brethren and of mankind. A wise head, a strong will, and a heart that beat responsive to all that is beautiful, true and noble in nature and art, conspired to mark him as a man among a thousand. He was learned in Masonic lore, and zealously attached to the principles of our noble institution. It will be long, I fear, before we shall look upon his like again.

The decisions relate to local laws and are consistent with general law and usage.

A number of dispensations to form new Lodges was granted.

We are surprised to find it stated among "*Suggestions*," that the Grand Master, under the Constitution of that Grand Lodge, has no authority to grant dispensations "to confer degrees out of time" or for "lodges to hold elections at times other than that fixed by law," and agree with him when he says: "In these respects there appears to be a conflict between our Constitution and one of the landmarks of Masonry," referring, we presume, to the powers and prerogatives conferred by the ancient Constitutions and usages of the Craft. And therefore he suggests the propriety of removing "this incompatibility by a constitutional amendment."

Upon the "suggestions" of the Grand Master, the Committee on Jurisprudence made the following report :

We note the Grand Master's "suggestions" in regard to the prerogatives of Grand Masters to permit the conference of degrees out of time. Also, the amendment to our Constitution permitting them to grant such dispensation where a lodge shows good reasons therefor, and upon the payment of a fee to the Grand Secretary of five dollars for such dispensation. The question of "prerogative of Grand Masters" is like the question of "ancient landmarks"—a subject on which there is such a diversity of opinion, and which is so susceptible of construction, as to be made applicable to any case that might arise. We are continually hearing of some important discovery of another "prerogative" or the finding of a "new" "ancient landmark." Our fathers, no doubt, were troubled in the same way, and in their wisdom framed our Constitution so that there could be no differences of opinion on these subjects. They had worked under the "ancient landmark," giving Grand Masters an immense amount of "prerogatives." In fact their authority was supreme. A "Grand Master" could go ahead and exercise his own judgment or inclination, and if objection was made, or criticism offered, he at once took refuge behind the "ancient landmarks" and shouted "prerogatives." Not having lived in the olden time, when Grand Masters were autocrats, and when they were not restrained by such things as Grand Lodge Constitutions, we can only imagine the immense

power they possessed and the great influence they could wield—possibly at times for good, but more frequently, we fear, for evil. The amendment suggested proposes to revive one of those “landmarks,” which we all know never resulted in any good to the order and many times great harm has followed. We cannot see how the charging of a fee of five dollars for the Secretary is any improvement on the old plan. If there was any good reason for the Grand Master giving any such dispensation it certainly should be given without any fee being charged. But your committee are of the opinion that we had better go by our Constitution and not amend it, giving the “Grand Master” any such authority. We therefore disapprove the amendment suggested by the Grand Master. [Adopted.]

We do not like the tone of the report or its conclusions.

The committee further recommended the following :

Resolved, That, upon the death or removal from the jurisdiction of his Lodge of any elective officer of a Lodge, the Grand Master shall, upon notification thereof, declare the office vacant, and order an election to be held to fill said vacancy, one month's notice of said election to be given the members before the same is held. Upon the death or removal from the jurisdiction of the Lodge of an appointed officer the Master shall declare the office vacant and fill the same by appointment. [Adopted, and lays over under the rule.]

The report on Correspondence is from the pen of that able and entertaining reviewer, Bro. James W. Staton, and covers 126 pages. We regret extremely that it reaches us just on the eve of publishing our proceedings, as it prevents our doing justice to it and presenting the many valuable thoughts and instructive comments we found therein.

North Carolina, 1887, is most courteously and generously treated and what we did pleasantly and approvingly spoken of, except “that at one of the Specials the minutes show that *the Craft were called from labor to refreshment* before proceeding to lay the corner-stone.” We concur with Bro. Staton that it was a mistake, if it was done.

The report on Correspondence, he says, “does credit to the authors, and he hails it with pleasure.”

Bro. J. Soule Smith elected Grand Master and Bro. H. B. Grant Grand Secretary.

MONTANA—1887.

A photograph of M. W., Samuel Word, Grand Master, forms a frontispiece to the proceedings of the Twenty-third Annual Communication, held at Helena, October 5th, 1887, the Grand Master presiding.

Bro. Robert Morris, P. G. M., was present and presented an original poem, entitled “*Masons of Montana.*”

The Grand Master's address is short but excellent, and in most appropriate terms mourns the loss of Bro. Hugh Duncan, P. G. M.

The two decisions reported accord with our views.

There was considerable discussion as to the *work* and a number of reports made.

Bro. Cornelius Hedges again presents the report on Correspondence, 103 pages, and again proves his title to a high position on the list of reviewers, handling his pen with rare skill and ability. We sincerely wish it had

reached us earlier, that we might have lingered over it longer, but our proceedings must go to print.

Of North Carolina he says : "One of the most interesting volumes on our table is the Centennial volume of proceedings from the Old North State." He speaks pleasantly of the Centennial celebration and the founders of our Grand Lodge; of Grand Master Busbee's address, and the report of Grand Secretary Bain, and of the Orphan Asylum, saying :

But the best thing in the whole volume, something that touched us to the heart, was to notice the fact that of the total receipts of this Grand Lodge, only \$3,182.50, the sum of \$2,000, almost two-thirds of its entire income, was given to the Oxford Orphan Asylum. It was the grandest incident of Centennial year, and all the grander because it came, like the widow's mite, from a scanty store. Other Grand Lodges may have given more from their greater abundance, but to our North Carolina brethren belongs the palm in this Centennial year of having excelled all in proportion to their means in the most appropriate Masonic work in the world.

Let it not be inferred that Oxford Asylum is supported by the contributions of this Grand Lodge alone. It is to the glory of Masonry that it has enlisted the State in the good work with \$10,000 annual appropriation, and from other sources \$5,215.88 were added. At a total cost for the year of \$18,028.34, land was bought, new buildings erected, teachers paid, and an average of one hundred and ninety orphan children provided for. It is an Industrial School, where all work, not only for their own support, but to learn trades by which they can support themselves. The average cost of feeding, clothing, teaching a child at this institution, including transportation, is only \$49. There is no extravagance there. We should feel proud if some of our Montana brethren would make up a purse and send down to this Asylum. It is doing a grand work in a grand way, and we know of no foreign mission field where more good can be done on a modest investment. It is in good hands and well managed. There should be an institution like this in every Southern State.

Of the report on Correspondence, he says :

As one of the best symptoms of new life, we have an excellent review of the proceedings of corresponding Grand Lodges. It is the work of Bro. Grand Secretary Bain, though he claims to have had an assistant. It is said to be the fruit of midnight oil. Shouldn't suspect it. Montana is kindly remembered.

Bro. James W. Hathaway elected Grand Master, and Grand Secretary re-elected.

The committee conclude their labors with the suggestion that they have done the best they could. Professional duties in one case and official duties in the other have prevented such a review of proceedings received as was desired. Some proceedings were received just before our own volume was issued, and they are noticed, though out of their alphabetical order.


The chairman expresses his acknowledgments to his associate, Bro. E. S. Martin, for the preparation of the entire report, with the exception of a few Jurisdictions. The committee had hoped to be able to consider some questions growing out of the claims to recognition of some Mexican Grand Bodies, but are compelled to reserve them for another annual report.

Fraternally submitted,

D. W. BAIN,

E. S. MARTIN,

Committee.

 These Proceedings will be furnished to Subordinate Lodges at fifty cents for each copy over three, to which they are entitled, postage added. Individual Masons can obtain them at same price per copy, postage added. This is according to the regulation of the Grand Lodge.

The attention of Masters of Lodges is called to Section 2, page 42, of the Code, as follows:

“The Master of each Subordinate Lodge shall cause to be read the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, for the information of the brethren, and the Lodge shall preserve the same and have them bound.”